

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Statistics are published by the Government of India in their Trade Journal.

PRESIDENT: What has Mr. Raman Pillai to say in the light of the statement made by the Chief Secretary?

MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Changanachery cum Peermade II*): If the Government are prepared to enquire into the matter and do the needful, there is no need to make the motion. I am quite prepared to withdraw the motion.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET (*Contd.*)

PRESIDENT: The House will now resume the general discussion of the Budget. Mr. Pacode Narayana Pillai was attempting to get up, last evening when the House adjourned.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Yes, Sir; I was in possession of the House when the House adjourned last evening.

PRESIDENT: But the House was not in possession of you (*Laughter.*)

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): But now I am in possession of the House, Sir.

I rise to make a few observations on the Budget Estimate for the coming year, as well as on the statement made by the Financial Secretary in introducing it. At the very outset, I have to submit that the Financial Secretary, after disposing of the various figures, on the expenditure side as well as on the revenue side, in a particular way which would suit his purpose, concludes with a consoling statement that the next year is expected to end with a surplus of Rs. 3 lakhs and odd. Sir, this so-called surplus budget is not, in reality, a surplus budget at all. A close scrutiny of the figures will convince any one that the next year is going to end in a huge deficit and not at all in any surplus. Let us see, Sir, how the Financial Secretary has managed to show a surplus. At page 28 of his speech, the Financial Secretary has made two statements. One is—

“Our closing cash balances, at the end of the current year—i. e., 1911 are estimated to be Rs. 90.37 lakhs.”

Just a few lines below, he makes the further statement:

“Our closing cash balance at the close of the ensuing year is expected to stand at Rs. 46.84 lakhs, which represents roughly the minimum working balance required.”

That is the position, Sir.

We must also know how this position has been arrived at. We find from the disposition of the various figures that the Government balance has been considerably depleted, nay, exhausted, as the Financial Secretary observes at page 27 of his statement, so that the general current balance of Government is expected to be overdrawn at the end of the next year by Rs. 9.57 lakhs. So, the accumulated surplus of several years has been considerably drawn upon.

Secondly, there is a particular method of classification of accounts adopted for the first time in this year's budget. Certain items of expenditure, which were till recently placed under expenditure charged to

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revenue, are for the first time transferred to items of expenditure not charged to revenue, that is, capital expenditure. By this clever disposition, Sir, the Financial Secretary has been able to make both ends meet and to console us by saying that at the end of the next year it is expected that there will be a surplus of Rs. 3 lakhs and odd.

Then again, Sir, there is the other factor to be considered, namely, in addition to all these things, we have run into a debt to the tune of Rs. 50 lakhs. For the first time in recent years the Government have floated a loan and to that extent the State has become indebted. We have to set apart, year after year for the next twenty years, out of the current revenues a big amount which would cover the interest charges. Secondly, we have to set apart at the same time, out of the current revenues for the next twenty years, a sum which would pay off the whole of the principal amount when it becomes mature.

Sir, under these circumstances, I am not prepared to call this a surplus budget. It would have been better, Sir, if the real position had been disclosed to this House, by calling a spade a spade, by saying that next year is expected to end with a deficit. Well, Sir, we are not afraid of a deficit budget. A deficit budget is a budget which is the result of the Government undertaking huge reproductive schemes. By undertaking such schemes, of course, the current revenues will have to be indented upon and sometimes loans will have to be floated and the proceeds of those loans will have to be utilised for such purpose. Sir, if the schemes launched are nation-building schemes, if the schemes are such as would in effect increase or enhance the material resources and the general prosperity of the country, certainly such a deficit budget is a budget over which every one of us will have to feel glad. Sir, a true surplus budget is one which reflects truly the real financial position of the State. I ask the Financial Secretary in all earnestness, does this surplus budget that he has budgetted for the next year with a surplus of Rs. 3 lakhs and odd, really reflect the real financial position of the country? That is the acid test. Sir, every impartial observer would at once answer that question by saying that it does *not* reflect the real financial position of the country.

Then, Sir, a word about the bifurcation of the post of the Financial Secretary and the Account Officer. Sir, some time ago on the floor of this House when the question of the bifurcation of the place of the Account Officer and the Financial Secretary was discussed, the Government told us that by this new arrangement there will be an improvement, a decided improvement, in the financial policy of the State. The answer given by the Government then was, if I remember right and if the honourable members of this House would remember the occasion, that by creating a separate post of Financial Secretaryship the Government will be able to inaugurate a new financial policy, that the new officer will be able to give advice to Government on financial matters with regard to the new undertakings, with regard to fresh schemes to be launched, with regard to the ways and means position, and with regard to the sources from which the various schemes will

have to be financed. That was the answer given by Government on the floor of this House, Sir, on that occasion. But what is it that we find in this budget? In the statement of the Financial Secretary, do we find any advice given by the Financial Secretary on matters like these to the Government? Well, Sir, the new Financial Secretary has been able to play fully with the figures on the usual lines. He has not risen above the position of a clever accountant. I do not find any original suggestion offered to the Government so that the Government could safely act upon his advice. Instead of that, Sir, we find in the Financial Secretary's statement certain truisms, mere platitudes, which even a novice in economics would ordinarily know. For instance, the Financial Secretary says—'Reproductive schemes ought to be reproductive.' Yes; we all know that reproductive schemes *ought to be* reproductive and that if we spend for the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme it ought to pay, that if we spend money on the Kaolin Factory, it ought to pay. We know that and we do not want the Financial Secretary, an independent and highly paid officer, to advise Government on the financial policy of the State, to say that these schemes ought to be reproductive. Has he considered the question whether the schemes launched by the Government, whether the schemes which are now worked by the Government on a particular line, whether these schemes would pay their way? If there is any defect, or if any new policy ought to be initiated in regard to existing schemes, that is the question that should be considered by him. Well, Sir, the statement of the Financial Secretary is a mere barren report on such matters.

Then, again, Sir, another platitude that he gives us in the statement is that true economics lies in spending, not in saving. Well, Sir, every student of economics knows, this elementary position that true economics lies in spending, not in saving. Sir, we expected, when the Government inaugurated the new policy of floatation of a loan and financing schemes from the proceeds of such a loan that some bold undertaking, some bold schemes, would be launched by the Government. For instance, Sir, it was years ago that the Government spent a lot of money, nearly to the tune of Rs. 50,000 for the railway extension scheme. The line from Trivandrum up to the southernmost point in the State was surveyed at a cost of nearly Rs. 50,000. In answer to a question put by an honourable member on the floor of this House as to how much was spent, and when it was, the Government stated that some five years ago nearly Rs. 50,000 was spent. For what purpose nobody knows. Well, Sir, we find in the neighbouring sister State of Cochin that, in anticipation of the Cochin Harbour becoming in the near future one of the major ports in India, the Government took time by the forelock and they converted the metre-gauge line from Ernakulam to Shoranur into a broad-gauge one. Well, Sir, that is wise statesmanship. In order to get the full benefits of Cochin becoming a major port, the broadening of the railway was an urgent problem and it was completed by the Cochin Darbar. But what is it that we find here in Travancore? Here, by some curious arrangement, for a portion of

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the State a small bit of railway line was opened some years ago. Even that was working at a loss and the line was extended for some little distance more. But has it improved the situation? It has only landed us in a worse position.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is it the member's opinion that the position must be made still worse by further extensions?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): By further extensions the position is going to be improved and not worsened. That is my opinion.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know the data on which the member relies.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Well, Sir, if a railway line is to be made commercially a paying concern, it must open up the whole of the country and not a portion of it. Then only will it develop the trade and commerce of the country, and it will interlink the various portions of the State, producing different products, with important ports. That will pay the way and there will be no loss. That is my humble position, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it the member's point that the Cochin Harbour must be connected with the Quilon-Shencotta railway?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): A railway which traverses the whole length of Travancore, from the southernmost point to the Cochin Harbour will be a paying concern.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it the southernmost or northernmost point?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Any point, Sir. It must be a full line and not a short or a broken line. It must be a line from one end of the country to the other so that all parts of the country may be benefited by it. Sir, we would not have quarrelled with the Government if, instead of borrowing this Rs. 50 lakhs and meeting the current expenses on certain schemes which are already pending, the Government had floated a huge loan and the whole amount of the loan had been utilised for the railway extension in the State, to work up the plan that was inaugurated some years ago by one of the then administrators. That would have been a very wise policy.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Does the member know that the investments on railways have now proved to be less profitable?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, that is due to different causes. It is on account of the wide spread-demand for reduction in freight and of course the present general economic depression has no doubt affected the railway income to some extent. We all know that. But I say that is not the consideration which ought to

weigh with us when we think of the extension of railways in Travancore. To make the railway really benefit the country is a huge plan and is well worth consideration by the Government.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Is it not enough if this is considered after the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme is completed?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Why should we wait till we have Pallivasal Electric current before we complete our railway? Somehow or other I place more confidence in the construction of railways for benefiting the whole State and especially in this particular case if our country is connected by railway with one of the major ports in India certainly that is going to be a very good thing for the State.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, the statement of the Financial Secretary that the general financial condition of the State may be regarded as one of exceptional strength and soundness appears to be a vain attempt to assure the anxious public of the exact financial position of the State. Sir, I do not intend to traverse the grounds covered by the previous speakers to show that the surplus is the result of re-classification of certain items of expenditure. The Secretary says that economic planning is regarded all over the world as the main objective of modern state-craft. Sir, the administrators of bygone days have earned our gratitude by a wise husbanding of the resources of the State as a result of which they have been able to accumulate surpluses after meeting all recurring expenditure. But in recent years our resources have been going down. In 1104, the balance stood at Rs. 170.13 lakhs. In 1108, it came down to Rs. 119.74 lakhs. In 1110, it dwindled down to Rs. 108.22 lakhs. In 1111, it came further down to Rs. 80.27 lakhs from which amount Rs. 34.78 lakhs is to be drawn in the course of the next year. This leaves in our hands Rs. 45.49 lakhs whereas we have incurred a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs which is also to be expended next year. Let us now consider whether this drawing from the resources has been utilised to the best advantage of the State. When Government enter into contracts with firms or individuals, they have no steady policy or adequate forethought and in the long run they become losers. We have instances of this in the Rubber Factory and the Sugar Factory. When the first Public Accounts Committee met, the Dewan-President was full of hope about the Thuckalai, Sugar Factory because the Government thought that persons in charge of it have great business capacity. But now it is seen that the factory is a complete failure and Government have incurred heavy loss in that business.

Coming to the Rubber Factory, when Government entered into an agreement with Mr. Helen, they said that they were able to secure the services of an expert for a morsel of food and a motor car, I mean his food and lodging plus travelling allowance. The building was put up at enormous cost, plant and machinery got down at heavy price, raw materials collected and work of manufacture of goods commenced,

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The mixing of rubber with chemicals, which is the most important process in the whole manufacture, is kept as a secret with Mr. Helen who does it in his own room closed up. He alone knows that process and none of his subordinates. As a businessman, Mr. Helen knows how to do business for he can now dictate terms to the Government. When he leaves, the factory will have to be closed. He has now been given a higher salary after a lot of negotiations. The Government are now in a very disadvantageous plight inasmuch as they will have to accept the terms that would be dictated by Mr. Helen, for, without him, the factory could not be worked. The agreement and terms of business ought to have been fixed up at the preliminary stage.

In the Poreclain Factory, an expert has been appointed. I do not know whether an agreement has been got from him or the terms of his service stipulated. I only point this out to show the haphazard way in which lakhs and lakhs of rupees of the hard-worked ryots had been made liable to be mis-spent and risked. The case pointed out above should not be repeated. I warn Government that they should have been careful before launching upon these works so that the best result may be turned out at the cheapest and most advantageous terms.

Now, Sir, to refer back to the surplus balance. The only capital work for which the accumulated surplus had been touched upon before 1104 was for the Kodayar Project. The Kodayar Project has been a really re-productive one inasmuch as it has laid open thousands of acres of land for paddy cultivation, yielding an income of 2.2 per cent. every year. Government must have now, by the sale of tank-beds, realised, besides the recurring income, about 80 lakhs of rupees, the sum they have spent upon the Project.

We cannot look at with satisfaction the scanty allotments made towards development of nation-building activities and rural needs such as village health and sanitation, communication and irrigation. I was surprised to hear from the Financial Secretary, who has allotted lakhs and crores for diverse schemes, another tale when provision is sought for the vital needs of the villagers or the people of the State at large. The Financial Secretary says :

"Proposals for the reorganisation of the Public Health Department were urged by the Director with a view to facilitate efficient registration of vital statistics, which plays an important role in the Public Health activities, and to obviate the frequent need for special temporary staffs for combating epidemics. But in view of the heavy cost involved in such a complete reorganisation of the department simultaneously throughout the State, it is proposed to work out the scheme in smaller instalments by beginning with the localities most subject to epidemics. A lump sum provision of Rs. 10,000 has been made for the purpose."

If the Government had in mind the vital needs of the people, especially at a time of famine and distress, Government would not have grudged the expenditure of a few lakhs of rupees for the health and sanitation of the villages. Village economics and village sanitation

ought to form the primary consideration of Government more than any scheme of doubtful utility. If you take the last year, you will find that there was hardly a week in which the State was not affected by either malaria or cholera or plague or other epidemics. I wish to urge upon Government that, at a time like this when the need is most felt, facilities should be given for working out such beneficial schemes.

As for the Pallivasal Scheme, I do not know whether it is going to be a success or not. Anyhow I am not so optimistic of its success as the Financial Secretary is. Government have not made any prior arrangement for the utilisation of the power that the scheme would supply. I learn that the Cochin Government have their own scheme for the generation of power. In that case, how are we going to utilise the power generated in Pallivasal? It is doubtful whether the K. D. H. P. Company will take any considerable portion of the power. The only alternative is to start industries in the various parts of the State, especially in North Travancore. The question is whether Travancoreans are in a position to spend money on such investments. If Government had surplus funds, they could have provided funds for the inauguration of industrial schemes, but they have none at this time when all the surplus has been drawn, even over-drawn.

A word about the Public Works Department. It is the frequent cry of the members of this House that rural needs are neglected. I will only give some figures to show that the provision for roads and irrigation works is very meagre. In the next year's budget, out of Rs. 39 lakhs and odd allotted for the P. W. D., for works on roads which are in progress, only Rs. 1.48 lakhs have been allotted, and for new works Rs. 1.75 lakhs have been allotted. For protective Irrigation works in progress Rs. 1,32,060 and for new irrigation works Rs. 1,27,095 only have been allotted. With regard to productive irrigation, Rs. 8,080 for works in progress and Rs. 17,000 for new works are the allotments. The total allotment on these is only Rs. 5,70,765. Even from this amount we know that only a moiety will really go towards the actual works. A portion will go to the contractors as their profit, another portion to the Supervisors, another portion to the Assistant Engineer, and still another to the Executive Engineers in some cases who are in charge of the works. The proportions vary according to the status of the officers and the amount of the contract.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Does he mean to say that the Chief Engineer is also included in it? What is the percentage that he gets?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): I am not aware of that.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Then why does he make that statement?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): I know, as a matter of fact, that the contractors pay a certain portion to the Executive Engineer, the Assistant Engineers and the Supervisors almost as a general case.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): May I ask the member to give names and figures?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): I will not give names in the open House.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The honourable member made that statement in the open House and I would therefore ask him to give the information in the open House.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): I am not going to give out the names or the amounts here, but I assure the House on my own responsibility, the responsibility of an elected representative, that, in almost every contract, especially in big contracts, a portion is given even to the Executive Engineers.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): If the member is not giving the names now, will not his statement be taken as casting a cloud upon the fair name of almost all the officers even though they may be innocent?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): There are several officers who can be included in the category. I would advocate the institution of a corruption intelligence department which may work with advantage to check such corruption.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Sir, Travancore being to a large extent an important maritime State in India, with all possibilities of a growing internal and external trade, it is only legitimate for us to expect from the Financial Secretary a clear idea as to the policy that will be adopted by Government in regard to our trade.

PRESIDENT: I suspect that it is manuscript eloquence. Please see that the matter is finished in time.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): It is the primary duty of the Financial Secretary to examine very satisfactorily our exports and imports and also give us an idea whether the balance of trade is favourable to our country or not. I need not tell the House that the economic prosperity of a country depends upon the trade balance of the country; and if the trade balance becomes unfavourable, that shows that the country is falling into an economic plight. Mr. Asan drew the attention of the House to the figures of 1104 in regard to our trade position and said that the balance of trade was unfavourable to us. He was comparing the figures of 1104 and 1110. I do not find fault with the Financial Secretary for not going back to 1104; but I do find fault with the Financial Secretary in his not taking into consideration the trade position for the years 1109 and 1110. If he had only properly examined those figures, he could have told us what the percentage of our export and import trades is and where it stands. The figures stood at 55 and 45 respectively. That clearly shows that the export trade is slowly falling, while the import trade is slowly going up. What Mr. Asan said yesterday in this connection was only correct. I would go a step further and say that the Financial Secretary should

have examined these aspects of the trade position. Unlike other countries, in Travancore, the export duty is a dominant factor. The Travancore Government mainly depend to a large extent for its revenues on the export duty. It is a well-known economic practice that an export duty should be put only on the produce of a country which has the character of a monopoly. For many years, the Travancore Government was keeping the export duty on cocoanut products. This export duty was realised more for revenue purposes although it afforded protection to the millers. I was a strong supporter of Government in this view from 1928 onwards. Now trade conditions have changed. It is imperative for Government to examine carefully the implications contained in keeping the export duties in the country any further. It will also be realised from statistics that the export duties under cocoanut products are falling down slowly with the exception of coir. In keeping the export duty I must say that the Financial Secretary has not carefully studied how this affects the trade position of the country. He has not examined whether this will lead to better exports and whether the Government could realise more amount in the form of duty.

The Financial Secretary has stated that, as the assets cannot be created by the mere waving of a magic wand, the next best thing is to seize the present opportunity to investigate and complete all possible deserving schemes. I know of one instance where, about 12 years ago, our Government was able to create assets in one fine morning at a moment's notice. The then Dewan and the Chief Secretary to Government conspired together and imposed a duty on pepper. The duty was raised from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per 500 lbs. The price of pepper then was Rs. 600 per candy. What is the price of it today? It is only Rs. 100 per candy. I ask whether the Financial Secretary has examined carefully this aspect of the question in regard to the existing high rate of export duty on pepper. I ask, as a business man, does it not affect the production of pepper and does it not affect the quantity of pepper exported to other countries. There is the neighbouring State where no duty on pepper exists. In the year 1110 by way of export duty the revenue realised was only Rs. 2 lakhs. In 1109 it was Rs. 5 lakhs. That shows that not only our export is artificially restricted but also the amount realised as duty is coming down. Then there is the export duty realised on ginger. It fetches a price of about Rs. 300 per candy today. Last year it fetched about Rs. 40 to 60 per candy. Is it not the duty of the Financial Secretary to encourage the cultivation of ginger indirectly and to place us on a level with South Africa which is competing with us in the open world market. What was the duty realised in 1109 for ginger? It was 1,00,000 rupees in 1110 and the duty now realised is about Rs. 41,000. If only the Financial Secretary had studied the trade position in relation to export duty, the cultivators, the traders, the merchants, the shippers, the mill-owners all these people, would have been benefited. I would only request Government to go into the question of export duty very seriously and

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comprehensively and see whether it could not be abolished or reduced substantially as early as possible, so as to encourage indirectly the planter and directly our foreign trade. The Ceylon Government, the Malaya States and Maldives, all these Governments have taken up this question of this export trade.

Even the abolition of export duties has become imperative in view of the unofficial declaration by the Delhi Government that they are not prepared to increase the import duties on cocoanut products so long as this Government keeps the export duties on these products. That has become a very vexed question. Till now the Government was having the mill-owners by their side for continuing this export duty. Hereafter I may definitely tell the Government that they cannot get the aid of mill-owners.

Trade conditions have changed. Cochin is no more a market for Alleppey mill-owners. The Tamilians come to the Alleppey market and get the oil directly from the Alleppey mill owners. The Cochin miller stands on a better footing than the Alleppey miller. To enable the Alleppey miller to compete successfully with the Cochin miller, it is essential that the export duty is taken away, so that the Alleppey miller can import copra from Colombo, Malaya States and Maldives and thus save himself from the double payment of duty on oil exported.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): What is the member's opinion about the export duty on Travancore copra?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): I am saying that it should be abolished.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Then what about the duty on oil from Ceylon copra?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): That too must go.

My friend Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai said that, in preparing the budget, the Financial Secretary did not pay any attention to the rural needs. So far as the next year's budget is concerned, I will go a step further and say that he has ignored the urban conditions in Travancore and also the external forces that would influence our trade position. I could point out several instances; but I will confine myself to three of them. The Financial Secretary does not know that Alleppey is the commercial metropolis of Travancore. I must inform him that no provision has been made in the budget for safeguarding the various trades and industries of Alleppey from plague. No allotment has been made for this purpose at Alleppey by way of providing rat-proof godowns and fumigating chambers. The Financial Secretary ought to have studied this aspect of the trade position and given some thought for saving Alleppey. So long as he has not done it, I will say that he has done a great crime.

Another point I wish to refer to in this connection is about the amount of duty realised on tea. He has ignored the world conditions

that are affecting us. Our market for tea is on the decline. The termination of the Ottawa Agreement will mean a substantial decline in the anticipated income from tea duty. Any one who is a careful reader of the planting pages of the *Madras Mail* could infer that the cry is very substantial in that the trade in tea is rapidly falling down.

I may inform the House that the position of tea is going to have the same fate as Coorg and Mysore coffee. Coffee from Brazil is ousting our coffee from the markets of the United Kingdom. The Kenya tea is slowly, but steadily, driving our tea from the London market.

Sir, the same thing as happened to coffee is going to happen to us. The two penny duty on a pound of tea now imposed by the British Government has already told upon the purses of the English housewives. She is no more caring for the quality of the tea. She cares more for cheapness. We all know of the great British vested interests in the tea cultivation in Kenya and they are trying to find out a market for their tea.

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): The functions of the Account Officer and those of the Financial Secretary have been separated. Now two different officers are functioning at the same time. But the present Financial Secretary's speech is absolutely in keeping with the traditions of the Budget speeches made in this House. I heard my friend Mr. Pacode A. Narayana Pillai say that here now we have an independent Financial Secretary. To my mind, Sir, the independence or the responsibility of the Financial Secretary is something like the exposed portion of an iceberg, a portion only being exposed to public view. Therefore, Sir, I feel that the Financial Secretary, whether ignorant of or alive to the actual conditions, can do very little in these matters. An officer of that grade will not be able to accomplish anything unless Government gives him support. Not that I want to absolve the Financial Secretary of all blame in the matter. I am speaking in this strain because I know the limitation of the Financial Secretary. If he is in the position of the Finance Member, then I can understand his being able to do all that we want. Here the Financial Secretary puts into shape what the heads of departments give him and what the head of the Government makes it possible for him to do.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Is that not the case with all the countries in the world?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): I am not going to yield to any cross examination. Sir, the Honourable member wants me to answer as to what obtains in other countries. I decline to answer that question, for everybody knows that there is very great difference between the constitution of Travancore and that of several other countries.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Does the member mean to say that the Financial Secretary is the mouth-piece of Government?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Exactly. I made it plain, so that while I maintain that the Financial Secretary should be more careful in coming forward with the speech I am not prepared to absolve the Heads of Departments. That is my argument. I do not know why my friends should want these answers from me sooner than I should normally give them.

I am sorry to say that, for several decades, in spite of the very great interest that the Rulers have been taking in the administration of the country, things have been getting from bad to worse in certain directions. That is due to the fact that the Government always think that they know more of the matters than all the non-officials put together. There was a time when everybody came to get the monopolies which the Travancore Government gave. There was a time when foreign companies wanted to construct railways on their own terms and the Travancore Government yielded to them.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know which was that company?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Sir, everybody knows that there is only one railway in Travancore and that it is run by the South Indian Railway Company.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): That is not it. I want to know which railway was constructed.

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): The railway was constructed on the terms proposed by the Railway Company. Unless the Travancore Government wanted it, there would not have been any railway in Travancore. That is a fundamental idea which my friends ought to know.

I wish that questions may be deferred.

I shall try to put my case very briefly point after point, because that is only what the time permits me to do.

The first point that I wish to put before the House is that, despite the very great interest taken by the Rulers, the idea to liberate funds for expenditure for the peoples' good loses its warmth and force when the intentions of His Highness the Maharaja are translated into action and made to go through the underground channels of departmental implementing. It goes out of shape and that has been the case for several years. The budget discloses certain unhappy changes. Everybody knows that we are an educated people, highly patriotic, inhabiting a country whose constitutional right is more than what is enjoyed by the people of many other Indian States, a State which was once regarded as a model State. We see unemployment increasing beyond measure. We have much distress. Therefore we expect that the Government will do something to alleviate this kind of misery. The important departments which can function in this line are the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Industries Department and the Co-operative Department.

In the Budget speech which consists of 47 paragraphs distributed over 28 pages we find a few paragraphs, from 20 to 22, devoted to this question. There are only two or three insignificant ideas embodied in these paragraphs. In regard to the Agricultural Department, there is the provision for the Scindhi bulls. I must say to the Financial Secretary and through him to the Government that we have heard of Scindhi bulls and Karachi cows even 25 years ago when my friend Dr. Kunjan Pillai was the Director of Agriculture. The Scindhi bulls and Karachi cows have not much attraction for us now. We do possess Karachi cows. Then about the Agricultural Schools at Konni and Kottarakara, I have seen both of them, and I do not want to say anything more than that. Those schools have been functioning for a long time. Provision has been made for the continuance of the Sales Depot at Trivandrum and Bombay. A provision of Rs. '95 of a lakh is made for the Rubber Factory. With regard to the Co-operative Department, they are placing the services of a Departmental Inspector, free of cost, to help the society with advice in technical and other matters. If by some shift the Financial Secretary's speech falls into the hands of some sensible man outside the State, he will think that the people of this enlightened country are a set of people who will swallow everything that is told them. I do not accuse the Government or any official member. The defects are mainly the result of the system. There was no programme in what we had been doing. At the time of the budget, various departments come with their bills for sanction and they send their reports. That is all that is done. And the budget is placed before the House. If there was a systematic plan, all these could have been avoided. Our resources have suffered mostly because of the action taken by Government from time to time without asking its officers to find out the condition of the market and the nature of investments made in the economic and fiscal condition by other countries of the world. To my mind Travancore is something like a Tibet. Mighty rivers flow from Tibet the Indus, the Sutlej, the Brahmaputra, and Yangtseking. The difficulty is that the people of Tibet are not at all benefited. All these rivers go out of Tibet and that seems to be like the flowing out of the natural resources of Travancore. That requires enquiry, and, I trust, Sir, that at this time of economic depression when the agriculturists are suffering, when His Excellency the Viceroy of India is taking very great interest in agricultural questions we expect that the Government of Travancore in whose employment there is at least one member—there are perhaps more—who is familiar with the Report of the Agricultural Commission over which His Excellency presided will be able to do something so that the agriculturists of Travancore may not suffer permanently.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Has not Travancore Government followed the British Indian programme by purchasing the Scindhi bulls?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): I did not expect such a question from the Law Member (*Laughter*.)

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : Is not the purchase of the Scindhi bulls a first step in the programme of agricultural improvements ?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*) : Seed bulls are required for cows and stalwart buffaloes are required for female buffaloes. These are things which every one knows.

Sir, I beg permission to say that we are at a time when we have to husband our resources very carefully. We want funds. How to get funds is the question. There is considerable force in the argument from this side of the House that too much money is being spent on officers. There is no doubt about that. I have myself been saying that for the last 20 years in this House and elsewhere. That complaint is the result of very strong genuine feeling. But there is one difference. The number of the officers and not their pay should be reduced. We are having more officers, proportionately more than in any country that I know of. Therefore something has to be done.

Secondly, with regard to our financial position ; people who can understand things must be appointed to consider this question. The land-tax is not a panacea. It has come into existence on account of historical causes. The question of indirect taxation is a very difficult one. It requires more intelligence to understand. The Government have been getting on for so many years realising the amount from the landlord. Here the Financial Secretary in his speech says that we are collecting more from the Cochin Harbour and more under income-tax and so forth. There is much in what Mr. Karunakaran has said about that. The export duty, he said, should be abolished. But I say it should not be abolished. That is not enough. The matter should be examined. What is the use of abolishing export duty which has been retained as the result of correspondence introduced by Sir T. Madhava Rao. If the export duty is abolished, it will certainly not be necessarily beneficial to Travancore. The whole question has to be considered.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Was not cocoanut a monopoly of Malabar in those times ?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*) : I know what Mr. Asan has in mind. As to the word monopoly, Mr. Asan and myself will have difference of opinion. I presume, Sir, from my knowledge of the principles of economics which certainly have not been proved to be incorrect.—

(*Presidents' bell.*)

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Sir, I wish to make some observations on the budget for the next year. Barring the new mechanical arrangement for allocation of expenditure under Capital and Revenue, I do not find any novel feature in the Budget proposals before us. I share the opinion expressed by my learned friend Mr. Velu Pillai in holding that there is no meaning in congratulating or condemning the Financial Secretary for the budget presented this

year. However, it is gratifying to note that the policy of industrialisation which has been chalked out lately is pursued. But, though he says that there are possibilities for developing industries further, apart from the provision for continuance of the existing industries, we do not find any new field traversed or any new field explored. There is a provision for the improvement of the Rubber factory. There is also a provision in the budget for the starting of a clay refining and porcelain factory. So far as rural needs are concerned, I must say that the budget presents a very sorrowful spectacle. As was expressed by several honourable members on the floor of the House, the needs of the villages have been ignored by the Financial Secretary. The usual complaint made by the non-official members in this House on former occasions is that the Government are concerned too much with the luxuries of the town in utter disregard of the village parts; and that has been the case this time also. With these general observations, I should like to make a few suggestions.

First of all, I would like to deal with the question of unemployment. The problem of unemployment has reached a very acute state in this country as in every other country and it has become a world-wide problem so much so we find many of the civilised Governments of the world tackling this problem in one form or another. In Great Britain, they have devised a novel scheme, and the statesmen there say that in a few years Great Britain will be able to solve completely this problem of unemployment. Same is the case with British India. The adjoining Presidency of Madras has also devised a scheme and they have allotted a separate amount for combating this evil. The problem of unemployment among the educated is a problem which is too well known to the heads of departments and officers of our Government from the innumerable applications for appointment which they get from candidates. The condition in villages, I must say, is miserable. The prices of agricultural commodities have fallen abnormally low. Trade is lingering. Village industries are almost in a state of ruin. So far as the low-lands of Travancore are concerned the main industry is cocoanut industry. The coir manufacturers are not in a position to get any price for their coir. So also is the case with cocoanut traders. Under such circumstances, what has the Government done to ameliorate this big problem of unemployment? They have not done anything at all. In my humble view, this problem should have been tackled in a comprehensive way and as a fundamental and distinct issue and a definite programme ought to have been chalked out by Government to combat or at least to mitigate its influence.

I will now pass on to the closely allied question of raising the tariff value of cocoanut products. Sir, there have been repeated demands from this House as well as from the country that the Government should do something in that direction. Every time we ask the question as to what the Government have done, the usual answer given is that they are moving the Government of India in the matter. But it seems that the Government of India is such a huge gigantic body which cannot be moved at all by correspondence. Sir, when your

[Mr. K. Padmanabhan.]

appointment as Dewan was announced, this country legitimately expected that you would bring a panacea to all these evils. Two vital questions which called for urgent solution on the eve of your appointment were (1) the nasty communal problem which has been eating into the vitals of the State and (2) the economic depression which is not a question peculiar to this country but a world-wide question. So far as the former question is concerned, I must say, Sir, that your endeavours have been successful to some extent. (Voices of question, question). That is, however, my view.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESWARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is it the Chairman's endeavours or the endeavours of anybody else?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): It is the Dewan's endeavours. And the country is hopefully waiting to see what the result of that is.

With regard to the amelioration of the economic depression, I must say that the country has not been able to get any tangible results at all. What I am urging is the raising of tariff of cocoanut products, the raising of tariff value on the import of cocoanut products and I say that is a matter which should be brought to the pointed attention of the Government of India. Sir, we are aware that you are a man with some influence in the Government of India circles, and if, as a matter of fact, you can take the matter very seriously and make a representation. I may say we will be able to get some relief in this direction. If that is achieved, which I hope is possible, I say that the country will be ever grateful to you and your name will be cherished for ever.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I suggest that personal appeals of this kind should be avoided in this debate as far as possible?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Such appeals are not made here alone but in every other country, Sir, I am appealing not to the Chair, but to the Head of the Administration.

PRESIDENT: Let us come to other broader facts.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): The next point which I desire to speak on is in regard to the Agricultural Department. It has been said that proper attention is not paid to the development of agriculture in the land. A vast field is lying open for developing the fishery industry in the State. That is a matter which we could understand from the large quantities of fish we get from the backwaters and also from the sea. Fortunately we have got an energetic young officer who has been able to get experience in foreign countries in fish industry and I understand that he has submitted proposals for developing this industry and that his proposals are under the consideration of Government. I would urge upon the attention of the Government that the proposals submitted by that officer should be scrutinised in full and Government should see whether there is any possibility for developing that industry.

A word about the reorganisation of the C. I. D. of which we heard much just an hour ago, Sir, the C. I. D. Branch of the Police Department was started somewhere in 1105 or so. It was started with a sub-Inspector of Police, a few Head-Constables a few Constables and one or two clerks. That small staff of the C. I. D. Branch has now assumed very huge dimensions so much so in the course of a few years we find a D. S. P. drawing a maximum salary of Rs. 400 or 450, 8 or 9 Inspectors, 8 or 9 Sub-Inspectors with an army of Head Constables, Constables and Short-hand Reporters: This reorganisation has taken place all on a sudden. What was the necessity for such a sudden reorganisation? That is the question I ask. A small staff under a Sub-Inspector was able to cope with very serious situations formerly. At a time when the Vaikam Satyagraha was going on and when Congress leaders were coming into the country in large numbers, the situation was met by a handful of men.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Was there agitation against the Government at that time?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): The Vaikam Satyagraha was viewed by Government with considerable anxiety.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): May I know whether the member is aware that the Satyagraha was open?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): I am aware of that.

This reorganisation of the C. I. D. has taken place all on a sudden. The simple question I put is what was the extreme necessity for that? Was there any extraordinary circumstance for a sudden re-organisation? Was there any anti-Government propaganda here which could not be watched and controlled by the general Police?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether it was not intended to find out corruption among officers?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): So far as I understand, the C. I. D. are not engaged in finding out that.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Has not the *Nivarthanam* movement turned into a political movement?

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): That is beside the point. *Nivarthanam* existed long ago. There was no *nivarthanam* when the reorganisation of the C. I. D. was proposed. That is the reason why I ask what was the necessity for this reorganisation of the C. I. D. Could not the Government take us into their confidence for this? They could have very well told us that they wanted the C. I. D. to be reorganised and increased. What was the harm in the Government placing the matter before the House? Why not the Government take us into their confidence. On these grounds, I condemn the present re-organisation of the C. I. D. (*Presidents' bell*).

That is how the Government are insulting this House. Even in the next year's Budget, provision has been made for Rs. 70,500 for the Legislature. Why should the Government spend such a huge sum on the Legislature if it is not to be consulted even on important matters. Better wipe out this House so that we can mind our business and the Government could save some money. (*President's bell*.)

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : The impression left in me by the Budget Estimate for the next year, and by the speech of the Financial Secretary in presenting it, is that the Government are now taking the role of an improvident borrower. I shall refer to the method of financing schemes not charged to revenue. Although that matter has been referred to by more than one speaker already, I think I would be right in dealing with it again : because, I am afraid, our finances are drifting. I rely on the admissions made by the Financial Secretary himself. In one place he says :

"As we have exhausted our Government balance, it is absolutely essential that we should build up a reserve fund to meet capital expenditure, or unforeseen loss of revenue, and aim at setting apart annually at least about five lakhs for that purpose."

In another place he says :

"The Government Balance at the end of 1112 is estimated to amount to Rs. 102.61 lakhs including the General Reserve Fund of Rs. 60.55 lakhs. This includes, however, the sum of Rs. 112.18 lakhs representing the estimated expenditure to the end of the year on productive works shown under "Debt Heads" so that the general current balance of Government is expected to be overdrawn at the end of the next year by Rs. 9.57 lakhs. It will be seen that the recent loan of Rs. 50 lakhs and this overdraft are more than covered by the value of our remunerative assets. Our gilt-edged surplus investments amount to Rs. 148 lakhs, and our other liquid assets to about Rs. 70 lakhs. Our debt position may be regarded as quite satisfactory."

I find from the Budget that the liabilities of our Government are enormous. Under the head 'Investments in Savings Banks' alone, it is over two crores. It would, therefore, be absolutely unwise to think of touching our investments in gilt-edged securities and other liquid assets, amounting to about Rs. 70 lakhs, for our expenditure : because, Government now have with them other people's money to the tune of Rs. 2½ crores under one item alone not to speak of the various other items. These liquid assets of ours, we must always have as a reserve.

And then, at the end, the Financial Secretary says :

"Our closing cash balance at the close of the ensuing year is expected to stand at Rs. 46.84 lakhs which represents roughly the minimum working balance required."

Sir, Rs. 46.84 lakhs is the minimum necessary for carrying on the administration.

The Budget for the next year also shows that, besides an expenditure of about Rs. 100 lakhs in that year for big undertakings, the Government have also to be committed to such expenditure in 1113 and in the few succeeding years also. Therefore, Government have to find 100 lakhs of rupees for each of the succeeding years also. Sir, how do they expect to do it? Where are the Government going to find that money? A responsible Financial Secretary would certainly have come forward with concrete, practical suggestions. I am sorry that no such suggestion is forthcoming from the speech of the Financial Secretary. He merely says that a sum of Rs. 78 lakhs may probably be recovered, about Rs. 40 lakhs from the municipalities and about Rs. 38 lakhs from the Cochin Harbour. This is what he says—

"A sum of about Rs. 78 lakhs may probably be recovered eventually, (40 lakhs from the Municipalities in equated instalments, being half of the capital cost of the expenditure on Drainage and Water Supply Schemes, and Rs. 38 lakhs from the Cochin Harbour authorities). The expenditure on extensions to the Pallivasal Scheme, and on Truck Telephone is expected to be remunerative. Government will, however, have to arrange for the necessary funds in the first instance for the above."

How is he going to find the funds? Clearly he has in view another loan of a crore of rupees.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Is there not the over-subscribed amount out of the present loan? (*Laughter.*)

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): I do not think Government would decent so low as to appropriate that also after having announced that they wanted only Rs. 50 lakhs.

Sir, how are these items of expenditure to be met? There is absolutely no means of enhancing our ordinary revenues. The Financial Secretary has now budgetted for a surplus of Rs. 3 lakhs and odd, solely relying on the anticipated refund of tobacco duty to the tune of about Rs. 10 or 12 lakhs. Sir, he is not going to get this every year. What he expects to get next year under this head is an amount that has accumulated during some past years. Therefore, Sir, but for this accumulation, which he expects to get next year, under normal conditions, the Financial Secretary could not have presented a surplus budget; his budget would surely have shown a deficit, normally.

Then again, Sir, every one of us here has been urging year after year that the activities of the departments of public utility were being crippled by the Government, not allowing them adequate funds; more money is needed by these various departments. The Financial Secretary now suggests that he proposes to allow to each department only a fixed proportion of the total revenue, and that, ordinarily, that should not be exceeded. The allotment for the Education Department cannot, even if our total revenues fall considerably, be reduced by Rs. 5 or 10 lakhs. Similarly, the allotment for the Public Works Department cannot, in the interests of the people, suffer any substantial reduction. We want more money for our Agriculture and Industries Departments also. The Financial Secretary has not made any suggestion for raising the money that we want. He merely gives some figures and keeps quiet.

Sir, suppose we borrow another crore. Our total loan will then amount to Rs. 1½ crores. How are we going to pay back, when we have not got enough even to carry on our normal activities? For the recent loan of half a crore, we require an annual provision of Rs. 3 to 4 lakhs for interest and for a sinking fund. If we were to borrow another crore, that would mean that, annually, we would have to set apart a further sum of Rs. 7 or 8 lakhs for interest and sinking fund for the other crore of rupees. Sir, how is the Financial Secretary going to find another 10 or 12 lakhs of rupees every year? Sir, unless concrete

[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

suggestions are forthcoming, there is no meaning in embarking upon big schemes like this. That was why I said at the outset, Sir, that the Government were playing the role of an improvident borrower. The Financial Secretary, in one portion of his speech says—

"The rate of interest has now fallen to a point incredibly low as compared with that in previous years, and capital is available in abundance at a very cheap rate. All over the world, economic planning is regarded at present as the main objective of modern state-craft. As, in this mundane world, assests cannot be created by the mere waving of a magic wand, the next best thing is to seize the present opportunity to investigate and complete all possible deserving schemes."

Sir, we want the Travancore Government to continue for ever, and not to cease after 3 or 4 years. (*Hear, hear.*) It is not wise to say 'I can get money now; so I am going to borrow and spend as I like.' How are we to repay? Evidently, that has not been thought of at all. Things are being done in a hurry without due deliberation.

I shall refer, Sir, to some of the works which have been provided for in the Budget for 1112. There are the Trivandrum Drainage works, Water Supply to the Municipal towns of Alleppey, Nagercoil and Shencotta, Electric Schemes, Trunk Telephone, Council Chamber, Cochin Harbour, Town Planning, Army Expansion, and so on. I do not say, Sir, that all these are unnecessary. But, Sir, as in the case of individuals, Government should also consider the relative importance of such schemes and take them up one after another according to their importance. It is not wise that, when we are hard up for money even for our dire necessities, we provide lakhs of rupees for improving one or two roads in the Trivandrum town. Sir, I am a dweller in this town and I stand to benefit by such improved roads. But that is no reason why I should congratulate the Government for allotting Rs. 10 lakhs for improving just one road in this town when our financial position is as it is now. (*Hear, hear.*) And, we do not know whether the road would be completed with this Rs. 10 lakhs alone. Nobody knows what ultimately it is going to cost. Sir, what is the use of improving one or two roads in a big town, leaving the major portion of it in dirt and in filth? Can it be considered an improvement of public health or sanitation? Certainly not. Government should think of a comprehensive scheme which could be worked bit by bit and completed slowly in the course of a prescribed period. The amount that we annually provide for such a scheme must be one that could be set apart from the usual annual revenue.

Further, Sir, let us take it that the Trivandrum town is improved with borrowed money. What about Alleppey, the commercial metropolis of the State? What about Nagercoil? These towns will also naturally come forward with schemes for improving their sanitation. Are we going to borrow again for them? Sir, where is this going to end? Is it not the duty of the Government to think about that? The present attitude of Government, to think of borrowing huge sums of money (merely because money is available at low rates of interest now) and spending it as they like, cannot be encouraged or appreciated.

Sir, there is the question of expansion of our Army for which also provision has been made in the next year's budget. It may not be a matter strictly within my province; but, Sir, the Financial Secretary has made a specific reference to it in his speech. He has provided Rs. 6 lakhs for Capital Works under this item, for the acquisition of land for building. So much for the year 1112. I also find that hereafter there is going to be an annual recurring expenditure of about Rs. 10 lakhs on the Army, as against a sum of about Rs. 5 lakhs that is now being spent on our Military Department. Sir, where is the Financial Secretary going to find money for this additional expenditure?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are not the civilised countries increasing their Army?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): That may be. But,—

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Are not the civilised nations also seriously considering the question of disarmament?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Yes.

Sir, I do not know the commitment or the obligation of the Government in this matter. But to me it appears that, if by any means this additional expenditure could be at least postponed, Government must do so immediately. I find that they propose to acquire hundreds of acres of land for the Army. At present, Government may pay only about Rs. 10 or so per cent of the land. But, the proprietor of the land is sure to go to a Court of Law for enhancement of the price; and ultimately, we do not know how much the Government may have to shell out. I do not know if the Government have considered all these aspects of the question.

Then again, Sir, there are the Water Supply Schemes for the towns of Alleppey, Nagercoil and Shencotta. I do not say that these schemes are not necessary. But my humble submission is that we should also take into consideration our resources. The Financial Secretary says that the Municipalities of these three towns have agreed to meet half of the capital outlay on these schemes. I know, Sir, the case of the Trivandrum Municipality. The Government have not been able to realise any money from the Trivandrum Municipality for the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme. There is no harm, Sir, in the Government expecting this money back. But, the Municipalities cannot pay unless they have money. And now, our Financial Secretary expects the Trivandrum Municipality to pay half of the cost of the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme. I do not know how far such expectation is going to be fulfilled. You may enter into any kind of agreement with these Municipalities. You cannot certainly make them pay when, actually, they have not got the money to pay.

Sir, these schemes should be embarked upon very cautiously. (*President's bell.*)

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 P. M. and reassembled at 2 P. M. with the Deputy President in the Chair.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks in regard to the Budget that has been presented before the House. Before doing so, I shall make certain observations in regard to the duties and responsibilities of the Financial Secretary who has been appointed by the Government of Travancore. It has been urged in this House time and again that the Financial Secretary should be able to guide and control the financial policy of the State when we agitated for the separation of finance from audit. That was with a view that we may have an officer who would be competent enough and able enough to control and direct the financial policy of the State as a whole. But we did not bargain for the duplication of the work of the Account Officer or for an officer who would be simply carrying out the wishes of any of the departmental heads, without trying to understand the financial implications of things. Sir, I am sorry to state that in this respect we are very much disappointed to see that, even with the advent of the Financial Secretariat, the old order of things still continues. But at the same time, I am glad to note that there is one peculiar feature with regard to the speech that has been delivered by the Financial Secretary on the floor of this House. To that extent at least the Financial Secretary deserves congratulation. He has not spared pains in stating what really is the financial situation of the State. So far he has to be congratulated.

With regard to the financial policy of the Government that has been disclosed from the facts contained in the Budget Sir, I am sorry to state that it is rather very disappointing. One fact that strikes me most is the earnestness or anxiety on the part of the Government to industrialise the State all on a sudden, even at the risk of very heavy financial commitments. I for my part cannot persuade myself to believe that it is in the industrialisation of the State that the salvation of the people of Travancore lies. To me at least it appears that it lies elsewhere. The attempt on the part of the Government to industrialise the State is an attempt done with a vengeance, I might even say, that it is at the risk of the agriculturists of the land. Look at the condition of the agricultural population in the State. They are not in a position to pay even land tax. They are groaning heavily under indebtedness. They cannot find markets for their produce. They cannot obtain even a starving return from their investments on land. The Government without taking adequate measures to safeguard the interests of the agriculturists in the matter of improved cultivation, without finding out ample and suitable markets for their produce and without trying as far as it lies in their power to obtain as heavy a price as can be got for them, without even attempting to alleviate their distress or to relieve them of their heavy indebtedness, want to rush on with all electric speed to the industrialisation of the State. The Financial Secretary says that the present time is the most opportune moment to borrow in the open market and to invest the borrowed capital in industrial concerns. Sir,—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I fear Mr. Panikkar is not quite relevant because, so far as I can see from the speech of the Financial Secretary

the Government have embarked on certain commercial undertakings. Certain industries are going to be maintained by Government. That is not industrialising the State. There is a difference between industrialising the State and industrialising the Government. I am just pointing it out to you.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Sherata II*): When I stated that the Government were attempting to industrialise the State, I had in view certain commercial undertakings, both reproductive and non-productive, which the Government are undertaking at present or propose to undertake hereafter. Sir, with the commercial undertakings which are taken with a view to promote the social service and amenities of the people of the State, I have no great quarrel. But in regard to the purely commercial undertakings that Government have already undertaken, and propose to undertake hereafter, I have a word of caution to offer. Our experience in the past has not been one which would very readily lend colour to the view that these commercial undertakings, pure and simple, are going to be a success hereafter. I might even say that it is not the proper function of a State to undertake these commercial ventures. It might be one thing to encourage commercial activities of the people in the State, but it is quite a different thing to embark upon commercial undertakings by the State itself. Sir, all the good qualities that go to make a good businessman may not always be present in a State when it embarks upon commercial undertakings. Our experience with the Rubber Factory has been rather disappointing. We opened a factory, and appointed a rubber expert and goods were manufactured. Ever so many stories are current in the country that there is a hitch between the rubber expert and the Government in the matter of the entertainment of a few hands more in the rubber factory, or in the matter of the sale of the articles produced in the factory. If I remember correct, the factory was even said to be closed for some time. We do not know what all things have transpired in regard to the factory and the expectation of the Financial Secretary in regard to the realisation of a good sum by the sale of the articles produced there is rather without adequate support.

Then again, Sir, in regard to the ceramic industry, none of us are in a position to offer anything with regard to the qualification or the capability of the expert who has been appointed to hold office and work the factory. As has been suggested by my friend, when funds are available, if the Government can borrow in the open market, what objection is there for them to borrow still further and to invest more money for the economic and rural reconstruction of the State, for the encouragement of cottage industries, for the rural sanitation and for the betterment of agriculture in the State. Sir, these are things which would go to help the ordinary agriculturists in the land most directly; and I am sorry to have to say that, in these fields of activities, the Government not only stinge, but they do not even care to provide for works already undertaken by them. Last year this time there was a proposal and I think a certain amount has been allotted for the acquisition of land for the

[Mr. Pottayil S. Krishna Panikar.]

opening of a tuberculosis hospital in Nagercoil. This year I do not find any provision either for the furtherance on the work already undertaken or to finish the work all at once.

Again, Sir, there seems to be a lack of policy in the matter of undertakings on the part of Government. They begin a work all at once in certain parts; and by the time it is slowly going to take effect, Government drop it. My friend Mr. Narayana Pillai (Member for Vilavankod) was complaining that a sum of Rs. 50,000 was spent on investigation for opening a railway line from Trivandrum to Nagercoil. Sir, I have another instance in my mind. Once the idea of Government was to cut open a canal from Alleppey to Shertala and very nearly Rs. 6 lakhs has been spent in cutting open a few miles. But now the idea seems to have been altogether dropped. What is Rs. 50,000 by the side of the Rs. 6 lakhs that has been spent on this canal?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): When was it done?

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): Some fifteen or twenty years back. The lapse of years is no reason either not to take up the work again or to rest content with the loss that the State had already incurred. I stated this, Sir, as an illustration for the lack of policy on the part of Government in undertaking works of this sort. Many are the instances, Sir, where adequate provisions are not made for carrying out works once undertaken. It is all the result of the lack of a consistent policy before Government in the matter of allotting funds for various works and embarking upon things which appear to them to be necessary as and when occasion arises. So I would urge upon the Government that they should allot more funds or rather direct their activities in the direction of rural reconstruction and encouragement of cottage industries which will go a long way in helping the agricultural population to tide over their distress.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): Sir, the Financial Secretary has presented a budget which shows that it is a surplus one; but whether it is a real surplus budget or not remains to be seen in actual working of it. I am of opinion that nobody should have complained even if a deficit budget had been presented to us in view of the continuance of the economic depression. Anyhow, I have to congratulate the Government because they have embarked upon a bold policy of floating a loan.

Taking of loans is the policy advocated by all Governments now. I am only sorry that only a small amount has been taken. If more loan is taken, more works of a useful nature could be carried out. I think that the Railway could be extended not only to South Travancore, as suggested by Mr. Narayana Pillai, but also to North Travancore. Sir, I learn that, according to the old estimate, only 3½ crores of rupees were required to extend the Railway to North Travancore. Why not raise the amount and do it?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : I said that the Railway should be extended throughout the State.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*) : Money can be spent on more reproductive works. Our expenditure is increasing day by day and all departments seem to have a mania for reorganisation. All this is meant for the employment of certain people.

Mr. Elenkath was referring to corruption among the officers of the Engineering Department and it seems Mr. Truscott was perturbed over it. I do not see why he should be perturbed. As a matter of fact, all the Honourable members of this House will be aware that corruption is rampant in all the departments of the State.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Question.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*) : I have, only a week ago, given a written statement to the Chief Engineer and he has not stated what action he has taken on it. Sir, I have only a week ago given a written complaint to the Chief Engineer against a Section Officer and he has not taken any action on it. (Cries of "shame, shame".)

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That kind of demonstration is of no good.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Thodupuzha cum Devicolum*) : Sir, it is only last week I wrote to him about the Section Officer; and in that letter I had clearly stated that, if such a Section Officer has been in the country to which the Chief Engineer belongs, he would have been the first to rise against him.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : "Hear, hear" "shame".

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I am obliged to point out that crying "shame" is not good. Cheers and appreciation may sometimes be permitted. But even then the practice everywhere is that demonstration will not be allowed; very much less cries of "shame".

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*) : Sir, the Education Director is given half a crore of rupees. We want to know in what way he spends it. We want to know whether he spends it for the betterment and welfare of the people of the State or only to enrich the pockets of his favourites. That is the question that has to be considered. Sir, the reorganisation of the Education Department has given to the Department a large staff. The posts of Divisional Inspectors have been created. These Inspectors are a menace to the public. For instance, the Muvattupuzha Division Inspector is incorrigibly corrupt. For the transfer of a teacher, for the appointment of a substitute, for giving grants for recognising a school, and for every small thing, he has to be paid. Unless he is paid, the matter will always remain under consideration. Sir, I have asked a question whether he pays rent for the house he occupies or whether the Government treasury pays it. I know, as a matter of fact, that the rent is paid from the Government treasury as rent for the office.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I ask whether the treasury pays it as part of his salary?

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): He pays Rs. 30 or so for the office building which is adjoining to his house. That includes the rent for his house also.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Does he live there without paying anything?

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): He pays from Government and not from his pocket.

Then, Sir, the papers have been proclaiming that corruption is rampant in all the departments. Recently the *Popular Herald* and the *Dakshinabharathi* have been writing articles on corruption in various departments. But Government do not seem to care for them. When a question is given notice of in this House, somehow or other, under some section of law, that is not admitted. During the last three years I have heard one Honourable Member or other speaking of corruption. I do not want to specify any officer except the Officers about whom I have already mentioned. I know that there are exceptionally honest officers and they are really an asset to the State. I am of opinion that Government should not undertake any big schemes such as the Pallivasal Scheme and others until the corrupt officers are removed. At any rate and at any cost, corruption should be uprooted from the State.

Again, Sir, I find that Government seem to be fond of show. Publicity is given outside that we are working very well and so on. In spite of that, when we look into the working of these departments we find several defects. It is only in papers, especially foreign, that advertisements are given about the great work done by the departments.

I recently understood that one of the Dailies started in Trivandrum is not given admission to this Assembly when a huge amount is spent as subsidy on foreign papers. I do not know why a Daily is not given admission to this House.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I tell him that papers that are extinct are allowed representation here?

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I thank the member for the information.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): May I know the name of the Daily?

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): The *Malayali*.

With regard to the Pallivasal Scheme, it is really gratifying to know that Government mean to switch it on in Makaram next. But I do not know whether they will be able to do accordingly. In the Budget speech of the Financial Secretary, at page 22, I find that, when the scheme reaches a normal period of operation, it is expected to bring in a substantial return. I would say that it will not be very

productive as a commercial undertaking. As at present decided, Government mean to give power only to certain places. They do not propose to supply electricity to all the mofussil parts of the State. I am of the opinion that, if the Pallivasal project is going to give any return, it will only be when the scheme is expanded to all these places. When I asked the Electrical Engineer whether he proposes to extend electricity to certain rural parts of North Travancore, he said that private companies should take that up. In these days of economic depression it will be difficult for private companies to take that up. In Mysore and other parts, they have given electricity to all nooks and corners. If the Pallivasal Project is to be reproductive, it must be worked out on a commercial basis. Having spent a crore of rupees, it is idle to say that some taluks cannot be given electricity. In the Financial Secretary's Statement it is stated :—

“The design of the headworks has been finally settled as a result of the visits of Major Howard and Signor Marcello whose services were requisitioned by Government in a consulting capacity to examine the details of the works relating to the scheme.”

I do not know why their services were requisitioned in a consulting capacity. What was the necessity for consulting these engineers when the scheme was launched after the hydro-electric experts were consulted? I sent up questions on two occasions asking for the report of the Italian Engineer, Signor Marcello, but no answer has yet been given. Recently Major Howard was also requisitioned. Unless we are in possession of the reports, we are not in a position to speak on the subject.

With regard to town planning, I said last year that it is not doing justice to the people in other parts of the State if money is allotted only to the Capital. I would congratulate Mr. Thanu Pillai for saying that ten lakhs of rupees should not be spent on the main roads when so many bye lanes have to be maintained. It would have been better if this allotment of Rs. 10 lakhs had been spent for improvement of roads in the rural parts of the State.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Sir, the budget presented by the Financial Secretary is noteworthy for the fact that there is a surplus of rupees three lakhs.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether it is a surplus budget or deficit budget?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. S. J. Nair, can you not be patient?

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Another noteworthy feature of the budget is the allotment of Rs. 114 lakhs for public works—the highest ever provided in a single year. The allotment under Town Planning in Trivandrum town is at the present moment not a necessary item to be executed by Government. There is a lot of work to be done by Government for attending to the rural needs. The economic depression has not yet left the country and therefore it is only legitimate that the Government should devote their attention to rural reconstruction.

[Srimati T. Narayani Amma.]

In regard to the allotment for the development of industries, although it may be useful for the country ultimately by way of relief to unemployment, such work should be examined by the experts concerned and the work proceeded with.

There is necessity for providing more funds for Dispensaries and the Public Health Department. I congratulate the Financial Secretary for the enunciation of policies to be pursued by Government. I hope the Government will take into consideration all the suggestions of all the non-official members in this House.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, the honourable member for Todupuzha in the course of his speech made a very violent attack.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): On a point of order. There is no member for Todupuzha in this House.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The honourable member who interrupted me just now said in the course of his speech.—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Does not the member know his name?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The honourable member Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai, in the course of his speech, made a very violent attack against the Divisional Inspector of Muvattupuzha. The honourable member made a sweeping allegation and referred to him as being "incorrigibly corrupt". With all respect and deference to this House, Sir, I would submit that the dignity and reputation of this House requires that honourable members of the House should not make such personal attacks against individual officers who are not on the floor of the House to defend themselves. (*Hear, hear.*)

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Could not the member himself defend that officer?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Let Mr. Narayana Pillai attack me personally. I shall be able to defend myself.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it the opinion of the member that we members should not attack officers who are not present here?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I will explain the position. Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan wants to make an explanation on certain facts. He prefaced his remarks by saying that the dignity of the House will be affected. If any member spoke in that strain—I was carefully listening to Mr. Narayana Pillai's speech—and if it struck me that the dignity of the House would be affected I certainly would not have allowed him to continue the speech. (*Cries of hear, hear.*)

But Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, as representing the Education Department and thereby the Government, has certainly a right to explain such facts as he wants to explain.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Mr. Narayana Pillai made a sweeping indictment and a very violent attack. I submit, Sir, that the House should protect individual officers against such a kind of attack. I request Mr. Narayana Pillai to give me specific instances of the Divisional Inspector's corruption. Let him make himself responsible for the accuracy of the statements made by him. Then, I undertake to make a detailed investigation and place before the House the results of my enquiry. I deprecate, and this House will also agree with me, that such violent and sweeping charges made against particular individuals—

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): On the face of the statements made by the member on the floor of the House, is it not possible for the official member to enquire whether there is any basis for the allegations that have been made?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I regret, Sir, that no specific allegations have been made. Only sweeping statements of a general character have been made. What is the sort of enquiry that could be conducted—

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicollam*): May I be permitted to say a word in this connection?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. Chandrasekhan has not finished his sentence.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I strongly protest against vague charges and sweeping allegations against particular officers.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicollam*): I was submitting, in the course of my speech, that, for every appointment by the Divisional Inspector, for every substitute that is to be appointed by him, for every transfer that is effected by him, for every payment towards grand-in-aid within his powers, for all these things, the Divisional Inspector has to be paid.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan has made clear in his explanation that if he is enlightened on specific acts of corruption, he would make an investigation in the matter. When a member speaks against any officer particularly on the floor of the House, I presume, he makes himself responsible for any statement that is made by him. So, Mr. Narayana Pillai will only be helping his cause, if he is able to point out specific instances for the information of the House. That is what Mr. Chandrasekharan also wants.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, there are scores of transfers, scores of appointments and promotions; and unless and until I have specific instances placed before me, it is not possible for me to conduct an enquiry into the matter.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are not the instances cited by the member specific? Whenever a transfer has to be made, the Inspector has to be paid.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): No, Sir. It is of a very vague character. The Honourable member says every transfer, every appointment and so on. One instance was given by Mr. Narayana Pillai on the floor of the House namely that Mr. Ranga Iyer is not paying any rent for his house. I can at once refute that statement and say that it is *utterly* false. I have visited Muvattupuzha, I have inspected the office of the Divisional Inspector more than once, and I know for a fact that he pays a separate rent for his house. Both his house and the Divisional Inspector's office are located in the same compound. The Inspector is paying a rent of Rs. 25 for his office out of Government money and Rs. 10 or 12 from his own pocket as rent for his house. That was the only specific instance, as far as I can see, which Mr. Narayana Pillai mentioned. I have answered that. I am prepared to make a note of specific instances and I will make detailed and full enquiries into such cases. I know as a matter of fact that the honourable member Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai bears a personal grudge against the Divisional Inspector; and one or two important matters that have been brought to my notice will amply testify to that.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I rise to a point of order. The honourable member was entirely wrong in making such personal accusations.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): It was not right on the part of the Director—

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I have a personal explanation to make.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order order. I am in possession of the House. This Assembly has been functioning for a considerable period of time and every member is presumed to know how best the work could be conducted. I can quite understand the attitude on the part of the official member of the House, if, while accusing his subordinates, specific instances are demanded in such number as the official member wants. But that is a different matter. On no account, can the personal motive of any member, either official or non-official, be questioned. (*Hear, hear.*)

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): But, Sir, unlike the honourable member, I can give specific instances of personal animus. Sir, when you as the President of the House—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): How is the member relevant in saying that he has specific instances?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All that does not arise.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I say that I can give specific instances of Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai's personal grudge against the Divisional Inspector.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): On a point of order.—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I have already given my ruling.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Sheratla I*): The dignity of the House demands that, as representatives of the House are involved in the matter, the official member must be asked to withdraw that statement.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Chair being the custodian of the rights and privileges of the House, I shall be the last person to allow such a state of affairs to prevail.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Sheratla I*): In spite of the ruling Mr. Chandrasekharan is persisting in that statement.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Let us be within the rules of circumspection.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Unless and until the honourable member gives specific instances and holds himself responsible for the accuracy of his statement, I am not prepared to attach the slightest importance to the wild and reckless allegations which he has made.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I am not prepared to pay any the slightest value to the words of the Director.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The honourable member is quite out of order.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): Sir,—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I may point out that that does not further any cause. The House is doing business in all seriousness. It is possible sometimes that adjectives may come with a force which was not intended. But there must be a bit of give and take in these matters. Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan was using very strong language; and later on when he understood that it was not quite proper, then he put it in the proper manner. Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai would be within his rights in expressing his own ideas in strong language. But this is not the occasion. The only occasion in which a member can interrupt another is when he wants to put a question or perhaps when he wants to make a personal explanation. That a member does not attach the slightest value is no personal explanation. It is personal statement. I trust that both sides of the House will consider these remarks in the way in which they ought to be considered.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, I wish to submit a word in this connection. Very serious allegations have been made against a particular Government officer. When the official member gets up and says that he is not going to attach any the slightest weight to the same, unless they are made in the manner prescribed by him, I wish to know whether he is voicing forth his own personal opinion or that the Government are not prepared to take notice of them.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: When a member raises this point, I am constrained to give a ruling. Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan is in the official benches as a member of Government. Otherwise Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan has no chance of remaining here. So long as he is an

[Deputy President.]

officer under the Travancore Government, an assurance that he is representing Government is considered unnecessary. With regard to the other point, I may say that, so far as I understood the Director of Public Instruction and if words can be presumed to express thought, all that he said was that while he was prepared to enquire into specific instances stated by Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai, he would not attach any the slightest value to statements of a character which do not specify the particular wrong action on the part of the officer. That, I think, is quite legitimate for the official member. Of course, language may be mild or strong; but on the point of law involved in the case I am of the opinion that, if a member is not able to give specific instances before the House, a member representing Government will be entitled to say or rather will be justified in saying that he will not look into that question.

But on the other point involved in this case, I am of the emphatic opinion that, if a member is not able to give specific facts before the House the member representing Government will be justified if he says that he is unable to answer or to say that he will go into the question. Of course superlatives may be avoided. Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai says that he will be able to give facts. When the facts, have been given the matter will be gone into.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I wish to know whether the facts are to be given in this House or in the house of the Director of Public Instruction or in the Divisional Inspector's house.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: My jurisdiction is only in this House.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, may I reply to that question. The Honourable member is at liberty to write to me officially.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I did not hear what the Director said.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I am not bound to say what the Director said. But to smooth the difference, I shall say that Mr. Chandrasekharan says that the Honourable member is at liberty to write to him officially about this specific point.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolum*): I wish to add that I am prepared to make the statement before the Government and not before such a Director.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think that is all wrong. We are drifting in the wrong direction.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is it right for a member to make insinuation against another member?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Insinuation is wrong, made either by the non-officials against the officials or the officials against the non-officials. I hope that will not be done. I did not notice very much of insinuation. I find some temper and therefore I corrected it.

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): I congratulate the Financial Secretary on his clear and hopeful report. The reviving of the old midwifery class in the Victoria Hospital, Quilon, the allotment for increasing the number of beds in the Ayurveda Hospital, the reorganisation of the Public Health Department, the provision for the improvement of rural sanitation—however meagre that may be, and the allotment for controlling filariasis in the Shertala taluk are the happy features in this year's Budget speech. But, I wish to take this opportunity to express certain grievances regarding a few departments.

I am sorry to find that no provision has been made in this year's Budget for improvements in the Women's Hospital, Thycad. It is so very sad to see women suffering from various diseases such as dysentery and typhoid lying down on the floor of the verandahs for want of beds and accommodation. There is accommodation for 150 in-patients; there are 150 beds. But on an average, the in-patients number from 250 to 300 a day.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Is there not overcrowding in the General Hospital as well?

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): Sir, in answer to that question, I shall only say that the member himself will admit that there are more diseases among women than men, and I am sure the Hon'ble member would have realised it after he put the question to me.

Then again Sir, there are only 2 clean labour rooms in the Women Hospital and each room contains one bed. On an average, the labour cases number eight a day. It often happens that more than two women labour at the same time so that what happens there can better be imagined by all than be expressed in this open Assembly. I do not wish to dilate upon this point, but I leave Government to think about this seriously and do the needful at once. Sir, the conditions obtaining 8 or 10 years back are still the same. Buildings and equipment must keep pace with the growing needs of the times.

Then the waiting labour cases, Sir. The average comes to 75 a day. But the number of beds is 24. So, every day 51 pregnant women, in the weak stage of their life, have to lie down on the cold floor in cold weather, exposed to the fierce wind and rain. Oh! we can easily imagine the suffering of these women. Many of them cannot afford to buy and use quilt and blanket, etc. If they are rich, they can just as well go to the pay-wards. Why should they come into the free wards?

Then Sir, coming to the children's ward, there is accommodation for 12, but there are 52. It is pathetic to see them lie down between the beds, on the verandahs and so forth. It is a pity that these children, the future citizens of our State, should have such a miserable treatment in the only children's ward of the State.

Sir, work has increased in the Women's Hospital. I understand Sir, in the absence of Dr. Simpson, Mrs. Lukose is doing his work in addition to her own. It cannot but be admitted Sir, that, under the

[Miss Hepzibah Gnanasikamony.]

present arrangement, she is unable to devote her whole service to the Women's Hospital. And no fresh hand is taken to assist the existing staff. It may be contended that there are some volunteers in that hospital. Oh! yes. There are some lady doctors who are voluntarily rendering invaluable help. Work is absolutely impossible without these volunteers. But I ask Sir, with all earnestness, is it kind and just on the part of our Government to get continued help from the hands of such necessary volunteers without paying them a cash?

Further, a Sub-Assistant Surgeon has to deal with 400 patients a day. This means extra work. The staff is not paid for their extra work. I do not think it just, Sir, that these few hands must be made to work like this without any allowance for the additional work.

I request Government to consider the statements I have made above and to come forward for a supplementary grant in the next session for improvements in the Women's Hospital in these and other necessary directions.

It is gratifying to note that the midwifery class in the Victoria Hospital, Quilon, is revived. I request Government to see that this training is continued in the coming years as well and that provision is made for the training of more than 8. Perhaps Government may come forward and say that unemployment will increase. But, I say, Sir, the question of unemployment will not be a grave problem in this case because there is a great demand for midwives throughout our State; and our Financial Secretary himself admits that there is "large demand for midwives". Coming from the rural parts, I know, Sir, the amount of illiteracy and ignorance that prevail there. The women in the most dangerous period of their lives resort to the help of illiterate, untrained ordinary women who do not always have clean ways about them. This is on account of two reasons. They cannot afford to pay the doctors. They are too shy to submit themselves to male doctors (and of course we know that there are very few lady doctors in our State and their services cannot easily and quickly be had in rural parts). Under these conditions, these trained midwives will be a blessing to the women and indirectly to our state as well for any money spent on the health and welfare of the women of any State is, I feel, building on the national wealth of that State.

Then, coming to the Ayurveda Hospital, we are glad, Sir, that Government propose to increase the number of beds. But what I submit is that the present site of the said hospital is not attractive enough. There is no big compound around it and it is not specious enough either. Hence, I hope Government will consider this question and choose a better site in the near future.

Sir, the encouragement given by our Government to *Vaidyans* and *Vaidyasalas* is very meagre. In these days of economic depression, people find it hard to go to doctors. Further I may say, Sir, people in

rural parts have great belief in native treatment; and it must be admitted that there are clever *Vaidyans* in the State who are able to cure even cases given up as hopeless by clever doctors.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESWARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Just one question. Are there not special diseases which *Vaidyans* alone are able to cure?

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): Yes, it is a proved fact that there are certain diseases which are cured by *Vaidyans* and *Vaidyasalas* alone. I am sure even our Government officers, who are responsible for the framing of this budget, will resort to clever *Vaidyans* in case they need any treatment of that kind. But now they grudge helping such clever *Vaidyans*.

The figures about the *Vaidyasalas* were clearly given by Hon'ble member Mr. Parameswaran Pillai yesterday and so I do not propose to repeat them here and waste the precious time of this House.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is the member's name Parameswaran Pillai or Parameswara Aiyar?

MISS HEPZIBAH GNANASIKAMONY (*Nominated*): I am sorry. Hon'ble member Mr. Parameswara Aiyar. But I don't think it makes much difference.

I do not say, Sir, Government should help all *Vaidyans* indiscriminately. There are quack *Vaidyans*. But men of genius can easily be discerned. Hence I request that more *Vaidyasalas* should be established and grants must be given.

Sir, a few words about the circular from the Director that school rooms should not be used for purposes of worship. If school rooms can be used for other purposes, such as acting dramas, which are not always good, why should permission be refused for such holy purposes especially when they are conducted outside the prescribed school hours? It has been admitted on all hands the Christian missionaries were among the pioneers of education in Travancore, and even now there are many institutions run by them or under their management. Many primary schools are already closed according to Government orders. Economic depression, which has hit us all, has hit them as well; and if this order is enforced, I am afraid they will have to close down their schools altogether since many of them cannot afford to put up new buildings for the purpose near all the schools or give up worship which I do not think they will do. The high percentage of literacy in our State is largely due to their efforts. Hence, I appeal, Sir, that this order must be cancelled. If not, it will affect the high percentage of literacy and naturally the present honour and prestige of our State will be at stake.

Sir, last of all, we are very much disappointed that a very paltry sum is devoted to rural reconstruction. Two years back, about this time, I was imploring, along with some other Hon'ble members of this House, that a large sum should be set apart every year for rural

[Miss Hepzibah Gnanasikhamony.]

reconstruction. I said that more wells should be sunk in village parts and roads must be constructed. But I am sad to find Government have not taken notice of our requests. We, the people who come from the different parts of the State to represent the grievances of the people, voice the opinion of thousands of people when we again and again say that it is high time that our State spends enough sum for rural uplift. This fact is recognised in British India and other States as well. The Government should spend money on *necessities in the rural parts* and not on *luxuries in the metropolis*. We find that more than ten lakhs of rupees are to be spent in increasing the amenities of this already splendid town. We shall be grateful to Government if, at least in the next year's budget, a decent sum is allotted for rural reconstruction.

That is all, Sir.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I have to make this observation. Mr. K. A. Narayana Pillai said that he would place the facts regarding the alleged corruption of the particular officer before Government and not before the Director of Public Instruction. This House is concerned with what Hon'ble Members have to do with Government and not with individual officers. The Director of Public Instruction has clearly stated that, if facts are given, an enquiry will be made. That statement is on behalf of Government and therefore authoritative. Mr. Narayana Pillai will, if he chooses, be doing the right thing if he places his facts before the Government.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Wakil*): May I point out that what Mr. Narayana Pillai pointed out was that he will not place before "such a Director"?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Did you raise that point before?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Wakil*): It was on that point that I raised the point of order.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I am glad that you have said that. I did not hear what you said then. The expression "such a Director" has something of disapproval in it, though not clearly a sting. Such expressions may, as far as possible, be avoided. I may also say that if, for any reason, an honourable member of the House says anything unpleasant to a particular member of this House representing the Government, if for that reason he refuses to place his views before the House that will be a dereliction of duty. Whatever be the views of particular members about officials, the member, in the discharge of his duty, has to place facts, as the law provides. Mr. Narayana Pillai, I was glad to note said that he would place the matter before the Government.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): I wish to make a few observations. Our budget is balanced; and to that extent; the Financial Secretary has justified his position. But I fear whether it would be possible to get a surplus. To prepare a surplus budget like this, a financial

expert was not required because all that the Secretary has done is to transfer certain items of expenditure from the revenue to items not charged to revenue.

We have spent nearly one crore of rupees on Railways and even to-day it is running at a loss. I wish to point out to Government and this House that over a crore of rupees has been spent on Railways and the Railways have been going on at a loss for the last so many decades. That is a very serious situation. If we want to profit by the Railway, I think we will have to extend the line from Trivandrum to Tinnevely through Nagercoil and connect Kottarakara with Alwaye through Kottayam. I may go a step further and say that, if my suggestion is not practicable at present, I will make another suggestion to Government to make the existing Railway paying as it is. That is to say if the Government will change the present Railway Station at Kottarakara to a suitable position near the M. C. Road and make arrangements for running trains at an interval of one hour; and if the whole distance from Kottarakara to Trivandrum be covered in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, I can assure the Government that even the present Railway can be made to pay or at least be run without loss.

Then about the Education Department. Nearly half a crore of rupees are spent every year for the Education Department. We have progressed very much in Education and we have almost come to a stage when we should cry halt. So I put this honest question to the House. Are we in Travancore actually benefited by the education given by spending such large amounts? I fear most of these institutions are running without any benefit. Even if we are to continue, I think, we cannot afford to spend so much out of the revenues. The Financial Secretary has thrown out a suggestion. I think it refers to the Education Department, namely, that no department shall get more than a certain proportion of the total revenues. I would submit that a tenth of the revenues for education would be a proper allotment and nobody can grudge spending that.

I think Mr. Narayana Pillai has charged poor Mr. Ranga Aiyar for corruption.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That is beyond your province.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (Kottayam I) : As the Land Revenue Commissioner put it the other day, economic depression has come to stay; corruption has also come to a stay not only in public service but in public life also. That is the position.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : You are putting an interpretation which is manifestly wrong. The Land Revenue Commissioner stated that the economic depression has come to stay and you are tacking corruption to that.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (Kottayam I) : Just as the Land Revenue Commissioner stated the other day that economic depression has come to stay, the honourable member for Kottayam says that even corruption has come to a stay not only in public service but also in public life.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: This House is not concerned with that. This House is concerned with the question whether there is corruption in public service. And not whether there is corruption in public life outside. This House has no jurisdiction over that.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (Kottayam I): The alleged corruption of Mr. Ranga Aiyar did not deserve such prominence.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is none of the member's business to say that.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (Kottayam I): I wish to suggest that it is not a case like the Science College defalcation case in which Government should take serious action. Government is bound to take action.

Then I think I have to say something about the Government's general policy. When the depression became acute, Government appointed a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the matter. Government issued two Proclamations to stay execution proceedings and then a Bill was introduced in this House to be passed expeditiously. The Law Member, in introducing the Bill, said that the Government is contemplating the floating of a loan and raising of funds to make the scheme work. That is to say, the Land Mortgage Bank is an indispensable factor for the settlement of debts through Conciliation Boards. But when members sent in amendments, Government themselves said that was a charge on the revenue and they were ruled out.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (Mavelikara): Is it Government that ruled it out?

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (Kottayam I): I think that it is the Government.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: If you say Government ruled it out, it will be out of order. And if you say the President ruled it out, it is equally out of order, for the President's ruling cannot be questioned.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (Kottayam I): Sir, I bow to the President's ruling. What else can this House do? To start with, Government took up the initiative that something should be done and the Law Member said loans will be taken to finance the scheme. (*President's bell*).

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kottarakara): Sir, I would congratulate the Financial Secretary for placing before the House a surplus Budget—though with borrowed capital.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Will you speak a little louder?

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kottarakara): I also experienced the same difficulty. I did not hear most of the members.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is not relevant.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kottarakara): Though the Financial Secretary says that our financial position is exceptionally strong, we, on this side of the House, are not able to appreciate these remarks. The utter hollowness of the next year's Budget has already been pointed out clearly and unmistakably by several members on this side. So I

do not dwell upon that point at length. Anyhow we have been following a policy of drift for the last so many years and the Financial Secretary himself has admitted that we have no planning in financial matters. The expenditure of each department is swelling and the expenditure charged to revenue is also increasing out of all proportion to the income. We have been told every year—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You are distinctly audible now, Mr. Easwara Pillai.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Thank you, Sir. We have been told every year that the expenditure is increasing and that there is imperative necessity for retrenchment; but unfortunately the Government seem to have lost sight of it this year also. I hope by the appointment of a separate Financial Secretary the policy of drift hitherto followed by Government will be abandoned.

Sir, I represent a rural constituency and I characterise the present budget as unsatisfactory from the point of view of the rural population. The Government Officers, who receive their salaries on the first of every month, are not able to visualise the hardships the poor people are suffering on account of the economic depression. Though it may be advertised in eloquent language in foreign papers that Travancore Government means to spend nearly 114 lakhs of rupees for works of public utility, the unemployed in the rural parts are not benefited. In fact the Government ignore the rural parts of the State entirely and no adequate provision is made for public works in rural parts of the country. Huge sums of money are being sunk in towns ignoring the majority of people who live in country parts. In this connection, I have to advert to the policy of Government in spending money in towns. If the towns' people want better amenities, they should be asked to borrow money or pay additional taxes. Water supply, lighting and drainage come within the obligatory functions of the Municipalities. Municipal bodies in Travancore have been constituted nearly half a century ago, but they are still kept by the Government in their infant clothes. The Government are trying to ignore the principle of local self-government and to centralise itself. Otherwise Government would not have spent so much amount for the towns to spoon-feed Municipalities. Government may guarantee the Municipalities in raising debenture loans, and give expert advice or grant in big undertakings. Sir, it is a sign of the times that popular rights are ignored and local self-government is discouraged. When we had the old Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, the representatives of the rural population could have brought to Government their needs and obtained satisfaction of their local needs. But by the constitution of the present Legislature, the members are only allowed to discuss questions of policy and the interest of the rural parts are being sadly neglected.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I did not catch your point.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): Now we are not allowed to discuss local needs in this House.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That is a matter which affects the constitution of the House and you will not be in order.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kottarakara) : I am only comparing this House and the old Assembly.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (Muvattupuzha II) : Cannot members approach the Heads of Departments ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Are you serious in that question, Mr. Kuria-kose ?

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (Muvattupuzha II) : The member was complaining that the members of this House had no opportunity to refer to their local needs ; I therefore asked whether it was not open to individual members to approach the Heads of Departments to represent their needs.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : This House has nothing to do with individual members approaching the Heads of Departments for various purposes.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (Nominated) : Does not the provision for interpellations serve the purpose to some extent ?

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kottarakara) : That is not enough for the purpose, Sir.

In spite of the repeated requests made by the representatives of the people, Government are even now ignoring the organisation of Village Panchayats and the constitution of Local Boards and District Boards. The funds available should be equitably distributed through Village Panchayats, and Local and District Boards. Sir, we are not glamourised by the bombastic schemes of commercialisation and industrialisation of the country. The only important commercial enterprise, that now we have, is the Government Rubber Factory. In spite of profuse promises made by the Government that it is a profitable concern, so far we have not been able to get any profit out of it. The Financial Secretary candidly confesses this fact, but he assures us that next year he expects substantial profit. Judging from the results hitherto achieved, it is difficult to share in his optimism. My humble submission to Government is that, instead of investing money on such large commercial enterprises, it would be better they should try to experiment upon some one industry suitable for this country and find out the best and the most profitable method of working it, and then show to the people how it could be carried on successfully. Government should not invest large sums on these doubtful commercial ventures, especially with borrowed money. (*President's bell.*)

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (Travancore Jemnies, South) : സർ, മൂന്നലക്ഷം രൂപാ മിച്ചം കാണിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ്റ് ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചതിൽ ധനകാര്യമന്ത്രിയെ അനുമോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

എൻ.വ.-ലെ രാജകീയവിളംബരവും പ്രസ്താവിക്കും അനന്തരം റിച്ച് ഭവസ്ഥത്തിലേക്ക് പ്രതിവർഷം ൧ നൂ ലക്ഷം രൂപ കൊടുത്തുകൊ

ജാമെൻ ഗവൺമെൻറ പ്രാധാന്യം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനുശേഷം ൧൧൦൩-ാമാണ്ടുവരെ ഗവൺമെൻറ് ഈ നയം പരിപാലിക്കുകയും അതിനുമേൽ ഈ തുകയിൽ ഗണ്യമായ കുറവു വരുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതായി കഴിഞ്ഞ വർഷങ്ങളിലെ ബഡ്ജറ്റുകൾ തെളിയിക്കുന്നു. ദേവസ്വക അനവധി വസ്തുക്കൾ ഗവൺമെൻറു പണ്ടാരപ്പാട്ടുമായി ഏറ്റെടുത്ത് ആദായമെടുത്തുവരുന്നതിനു പ്രതിഫലമായി ദേവസ്വത്തിലേക്ക് കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു തുകയാണ് ഈ ൧൩ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ദേവസ്വത്തിലെ അനവധി വസ്തുക്കൾ പണ്ടാരപ്പാട്ടുമായി എടുത്തതിന്റെ ഒരു ശതമാനം മാത്രമാണിത്. ഈ അംശദാനത്തിൽ കുറവു വരുത്തുന്നത് പരിതാപകരംതന്നെ. ഏതായാലും ഒരു നിശ്ചിത നയത്തിൽനിന്നും ഗവൺമെൻറു വ്യതിചലിക്കുന്നത് ആശാസ്യമല്ലതന്നെ. ഗവൺമെൻറ് വാഗ്ദാനം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള തുകയിൽനിന്നും ൧൧൦൦-ൽ കുറവു വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു ക്ഷത്തി അനുപത്തിരായിരത്തി അനുപത്താറു രൂപയും, ൧൧൦൦-ൽ കുറവു വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള രണ്ടുലക്ഷത്തി ഇരുപതിനായിരത്തി എൺപത്താറു രൂപയും, ൧൧൦൦-ൽ കുറവു വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള രണ്ടുലക്ഷത്തി പതിനായിരത്തി ഇരുന്നൂറ്റി ഇരുപത്താറു രൂപയും, ൧൧൧൦-ൽ കുറവു വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള നാലുലക്ഷത്തി ഇരുപത്തൊമ്പതിനായിരത്തി ഇരുന്നൂറ്റി നാല്പത്തിമൂന്നു രൂപയും, ൧൧൧൧-ൽ ആണ്ടുവരുന്നതിൽ കുറവുവരുന്ന തുകയും ന്യായമായി ദേവസ്വങ്ങൾക്കു കിട്ടുവാൻ അവകാശമുള്ളതും കിട്ടേണ്ടതാകുന്നു. ഗവൺമെൻറിനു ഈ തുക ഉടനടി കൊടുത്തു തീർക്കുവാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞില്ലെങ്കിൽതന്നെയും ഈ കടം മറ്റു കടങ്ങളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ ചേർത്തു പലിശ സഹിതം ദേവസ്വത്തിലേക്ക് ഏല്പിക്കുവാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറു രാജകീയവിളംബരപ്രകാരംതന്നെ നിർബന്ധിതരായിരിക്കേണ്ടതാകുന്നു.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ പെററിയും മൈനറുമായി അനവധി ദേവസ്വങ്ങളുണ്ട്. അവയെല്ലാം ജീർണ്ണാവസ്ഥയിലും നിത്യനിദാനപോലും ശരിയായി നടക്കാതെയും ആണ് ഇരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇവയെ ഉദ്ധരിക്കുന്നതിനും ഗവൺമെൻറു നൽകേണ്ടതായ അംശദാനത്തിൽ കുറവു വരുത്താതെയിരിക്കേണ്ടതാകുന്നു. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെൻറു ൧൧൧൨-ാമാണ്ട് സ്വീകരിക്കുവാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന നയംപോലെതന്നെ മേലും സ്വീകരിക്കുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

മുമ്പു ദേവസ്വങ്ങളുടെ കാര്യം പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ജന്മിമാരുടെ വസ്തുക്കൾ മുഴുവനും—ജന്മാവകാശപോലും—കടിയന്മാർക്കു വിട്ടുകൊടുത്തി

[Mr. P. C. Narayanan Bhattathiripad.]

ഉള്ളതിനു പ്രതിഫലമായി കടിയാന്മാർ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു സമ്മതിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു ആലായമാണ് ജന്മിക്കരം ജന്മിക്കരം നിയമപ്രകാരം ജന്മവസ്തുവിനുമലുള്ള ആദ്യ ചാർജായി നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് അതു കടിയാന്റെ മരുകടങ്ങളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ ഒരിക്കലും ചേർക്കുൻ പാടുള്ളതല്ല ജന്മിക്കരം കുടുംബികവരുമ്പോൾ അതിന്റെ തീരുമാനത്തിനു കൺസിഡിയേഷൻ ബോർഡിനു വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണ് കാർഷികാശ്വാസബില്ലിൽ വിവരിച്ചുകണ്ടുന്നത്.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : കാർഷികാശ്വാസബില്ലിനും ഗവൺമെൻറിനുമിടയിൽ എന്തു ബന്ധമാണുള്ളത്?

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (*Travancore Jemmes, South*): ഗവൺമെൻറു അവതരിപ്പിച്ച ബില്ലാണ് അത്.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : ഇവിടെയിരിക്കുന്ന മെമ്പർമാരല്ലേ അതു പാസ്സാക്കിയത്? ഗവൺമെൻറല്ലല്ലോ?

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (*Travancore Jemmes, South*): ജന്മിമാർ ഇവിടെ ഒരു ന്യൂനപക്ഷമാകയാൽ ഈ വകുപ്പിനെ ഭേദപ്പെടുത്തുവാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞില്ല. സാമ്പത്തികാധിപത്യംകൊണ്ട് കടിയാന് ജന്മിക്കരം കൊടുക്കാൻ ശക്തിയില്ലാതെവരുന്നു എന്ന് ഒരു സമാധാനം പറയുമായിരിക്കാം. ഇത് ഒരിക്കലും സ്വീകാര്യമല്ല. ജന്മിക്കരം സാധനമായിട്ടു കൊടുത്തുകൊള്ളണമെന്നാണ് പുരാതനകാലം മുതൽക്കേയുള്ള ഏർപ്പാട്. കടിയാന്റെ നെരകൃത്യത്തെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ച് അത് പണമായി മാറി. ഈ ഒരു നെരജന്മം ജന്മിമാരെ നശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു ഒരു യുദ്ധമായി പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുന്നതു ഒരിക്കലും ശരിയല്ല. ജന്മിക്കരംകൊണ്ട് മാത്രം ഉപജീവനം കഴിക്കുന്ന ജന്മിമാർ അനുവദിക്കപ്പെടും. അവരുടെ ഉപജീവനം കൺസിഡിയേഷൻബോർഡിന്റെ തീരുമാനത്തിനു വിധേയമായിത്തീർന്നു എന്നുവരികിൽ ജന്മിമാരെല്ലാം കഷ്ടപ്പെടും. ജന്മിക്കരം കൺസിഡിയേഷൻബോർഡിന്റെ തീരുമാനത്തിനു വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കണമെന്ന ബില്ലിൽ പറയുന്ന ഭാഗം ഗവൺമെൻറു സ്വന്തമായി പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്തുകയുണ്ടെന്നും അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ആയുർവേദശാസ്ത്രപരിഷ്കരണ കമ്മിറ്റിയിൽ ആറു കിടക്കകൾ അടുത്തകൊല്ലം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്നതായി ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കാണുന്നത് ആശ്വാസജനകമാണ്. ആയുർവേദ ചികിത്സാ സംപ്രദായം നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിനു വളരെയേറേജിച്ചതും ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ വിശ്വാസമുള്ളതും ആകുന്നു. ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് ചികിത്സാ സംപ്രദായത്തിനു ചെലവാക്കിവരുന്ന തുക കുറയ്ക്കുകയും ആയുർവേദത്തിനെ കുറേക്കൂടി പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നും അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

ണ്ടതാണ്. നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിൽ പലഭാഗത്തും ചെലുസഹായം ലഭിക്കാതെ ജനങ്ങൾ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുന്നുണ്ട്. അവരുടെ സൗകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ട തൊഴിലുകൾ ഗവൺമെന്റ് ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. നാട്ടിൻപുറ പലഭാഗങ്ങളിലും ആയുർവേദാശുപത്രികൾ ഗവൺമെന്റ് ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. നാട്ടിൻപുറ പലഭാഗങ്ങളിലും ആയുർവേദാശുപത്രികൾ ഗവൺമെന്റിൽനിന്നുതന്നെ തുറന്നുകൊടുക്കണം. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു പല ഗ്രാമങ്ങളും ഉദ്ധരിക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു. രാജധാനിയിലെ സുഖാനുഭവത്തിനു വേണ്ട ധനം മുഴുവനും ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നാണ് വരേണ്ടതു്. ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ ഭർദ്ദിക്ഷം വരുമ്പോൾ രാജധാനി തുടങ്ങിയ പട്ടണങ്ങളേയും അതു ബാധിക്കാതിരിക്കുകയില്ല. ടെങ്ങു പഠ്ഠാനിങ്ങിനായി ഇവിടെ ചെലവാക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന പണം ഗ്രാമോലാഭരണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ചെലവാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റ് ഇനിയും മെന്റേം ഭീക്ഷിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*) Sir, the Financial Secretary has budgetted for a total revenue of Rs. 245 lakhs for 1112. It is the highest figure reached in normal years even before the depression. In 1104 and 1105, the revenue was slightly higher than Rs 245 lakhs; but in the years prior to 1104, although there was no depression as there is now, the total revenue was much less than what is budgetted for the coming year. Therefore it would appear that, according to the Financial Secretary, the year 1112 would be quite a normal year and that there would be no need for any pessimism in regard to the collection of revenue. That, it appears to me, reveals an attitude on the part of the Government to recover from the tax-payer, ruthlessly, every pie that is due from him, irrespective of his ability to pay. If the Government had recognised the difficulties of the tax-payer also, and had evinced an intention to improve his capacity to pay the tax, I should have had no complaint about that attitude of the Government. But, throughout the speech of the Financial Secretary, there was not one word to show that he or the Government recognise the existence of depression, or of the other causes which have tended to lower the prices of agricultural products which have incapacitated the ryot to meet the demands of the Government nor is there any suggestion in the speech of the Financial Secretary to improve the condition of the agriculturist.

One direction in which I should have expected the Financial Secretary to have made some suggestions, in his speech, for improving the paying capacity of the ryot, is the need for the protection of the cocoanut industry. Sir, we have been representing to this Government, as well as to the Government of British India, in regard to the necessity for protecting the cocoanut industry. But, so far, except for the slight revision made, to our advantage, in November last, in the tariff

[Mr. Changanachery K. Paramesvaran Pillai,]

values, there has been no tangible recognition of our difficulties nor any intention to meet the situation adequately. The result has been, of course, that the dumping of cocoanuts and coconut products, by Ceylon into the Indian market, has been increasing from day to day.

The latest figures furnished by the Travancore Chamber of Commerce are as follows:—

For the period from 1st January to the 30th of June 1935, that is for six months, the export into India of copra from Ceylon was 2,14,015 cwts. For the corresponding period of six months in 1936, the import of copra into India from Ceylon was 3,66,246 cwts. Again in the case of dessicated nuts, the import during the first six months of 1935 was 26,812 lbs., while in 1936 during the same period of first six months, it was 52,562 lbs., that is double the import in 1935. As for cocoanuts, the number imported from Ceylon during the first six months of 1935 was 3,334,411, while the nuts imported into India during the same period in 1936 was 4,274,177.

Therefore you will find, Sir, that the result of this denial of justice on the part of Government to the suffering coconut planters of India has been the abnormal increase in the imports of coconut and coconut products from Ceylon and the consequent fall in the prices. Much has been said by the British Government in regard to the recent revision of tariff values. The result of that revision has merely been to place us in the same position in which we were in 1933. In 1933 the tariff value of copra per cwt. was Rs. 9. In 1934 the tariff value of copra was reduced to Rs. 6 and in 1935 it has been restored to Rs. 9. That is, our position now is the same as it was in 1933. It has been stated by the persons in authority on this subject that the result of the increase has been good and sufficient to meet the situation, because the prices of coconut and coconut products have risen recently. Sir, there has no doubt been recently a rise in the price of these articles; but that, I submit, is due not to the revision of the tariff values but to the abnormal fall in the output of coconuts on account of the failure of monsoons during the last two years. Sir, this is a matter of experience for all coconut planters; and they have now not got more than 30 per cent. of the production they had two years ago. Another argument put forward is that the position of the consumers in India has not been taken into account. So far as that is concerned, it appears to me that we should take not only the position of the consumers in British India but the position of the consumers in Kerala also into consideration, because we are consuming sugar, wheat and other products upon which import duties have been imposed by British India and we pay our share of those duties. I have got a feeling that the local Governments concerned, namely, Travancore, Cochin and the Madras Governments have not done all that is possible for them to do in this matter and that sufficient pressure has not been brought to bear on the British Government in regard to this matter.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Does the member mean the Government of India?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): Yes.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: We are concerned only with what the Government of Travancore should do.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): But this is a matter in which three Governments are interested and therefore they should co-operate and bring pressure to bear on the Government of India. Sir, why our grievance is not redressed is because we are cowards. By the Interportal Trade Convention we have lost our right to raise a tariff wall. We cannot retaliate when we want to. If we could retaliate we could impose a heavy duty on textile imports and then probably the Government of India will come to their senses. But now we are powerless to do that. That, I submit, is a matter which the British Government ought to take into account in granting us relief, because, when the Travancore Government entered into this agreement, it was implied that the British Government would do all that was necessary to protect our interests. But they are not doing it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Why is it that the member says that a prohibitive tariff should be put on textile goods? Has it any connection with cocoanuts?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The honourable member has stated that it is by way of retaliation.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vaki*): I want to know how?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): I think the British Government are to some extent afraid that, if this duty is imposed upon cocoanut and cocoanut products imported from Ceylon, the Ceylon Government may retaliate by levying an import duty on textile goods imported into Ceylon from India. Now if we are importing a very much larger quantity of textile goods from British India and if we had also a similar power of retaliation, I think the Government of India would pay more heed to our demands.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Is it not possible for the people voluntarily to boycott these goods and retaliate?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): That is more easily said than done.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Law Member has put a question and I have to interrupt at this stage, because in the course of the budget discussion members of this House are certainly entitled to advise the Travancore Government as to what they should do in order to remove the difficulties of the situation. But when I heard the

[Deputy President]

Interportal Convention mentioned, I felt it necessary to say that, that being an agreement between the Travancore Government and the Paramount power, statements made on the floor of the House, except by way of illustration in very exceptional cases, may not have any value. And I fear any constructive action to override the Interportal Convention will be improper. The Interportal Convention need not be discussed on the floor of this House.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): I am not discussing the Interportal Convention at all. I am only suggesting that the Travancore Government ought to insist upon the Interportal Convention being revised.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, may I know why it is not practicable for the people to boycott British textile goods and thereby retaliate?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): Sir, I do not think I can discuss here the effect of *Satyagraha* or the boycott of foreign goods. That is entirely foreign to the province of this Assembly. If the expediency of such a thing can be discussed in this House, I am prepared to do so.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Law Member did not counsel *Satyagraha*.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): He asked me why I thought that boycott of British goods is not practicable. (*President's bell*)

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr Chattanatha Karayalar.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Sir, although it is permissible to wander from China to Peru during the general discussion of the budget, I shall confine myself to making a few observations on the Budget Estimates from a purely business point of view.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Your statement requires some interpretation. You meant China to Peru in a sense.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): It is an expression which is well understood, Sir.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: By that you mean within the four corners of what you are allowed to say. Yes, please go on.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Sir, the budget estimates that have been presented to us disclose a small surplus of Rs. 3.54 lakhs. A surplus budget is ordinarily understood to indicate a period of prosperity. But this criterion is not applicable to a country like ours where our sources of revenue are rigid and our elastic sources of revenue are very very limited. In a country like England or even British India, where the revenues are raised from year to year by taxation, if a surplus is arrived at there, it may indicate a period of

prosperity. But labouring, as we do, under conditions entirely different from those in British India or England, our elastic resources are very limited and we have more or less come to a static state, to use the expression of the Financial Secretary. To borrow another expression from the Financial Secretary, it may be generally possible to create a surplus budget by a mere waving of the magic wand. What I wish to point out, Sir, is that our revenues are more or less static. It may be possible for us to arrive at a state of equilibrium or even to produce a small surplus by suitably adjusting our programme of expenditure.

Coming now to the actual surplus, Sir, if we scrutinise the estimates, we shall find that this surplus has been arrived at more or less by taking credit for an item of receipts under customs, which has come to us by way of a wind-fall. I refer to the item of Rs. 7.72 lakhs by way of refund of the duty on Jaffna tobacco which more than accounts for Rs. 6.54 lakhs which the Financial Secretary has estimated as surplus. Even apart from this, the Financial Secretary has taken credit for Rs. 1.79 lakhs under Excise duty on matches. My attention was drawn to the fact by my friend Mr. Karunakaran that ordinarily it might have been possible to anticipate that amount. May I point out to the Financial Secretary that one of the important sources from which we expect to get this revenue, namely, the Malabar Match Factory at Mudikal, has closed down and it is only reasonable to suppose that a substantial portion of that item of revenue cannot be counted upon. So, Sir, if these factors are taken into consideration, there should be a considerable deterioration in the revenue and the anticipations of Government may not be realised.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Why was the factory closed?

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): They found it impossible to carry on, Sir. So what I want to emphasise, Sir, is that these factors will disturb the calculations of the Financial Secretary.

I wish to offer a few remarks about the change of classification that has been adopted by the Financial Secretary. He stated that a change of classification has been adopted by Government in regard to the allocation of expenditure between capital and revenue not only with respect to the budget estimates for the coming year but also with regard to the revised estimates for the current year. Whatever the merits of the new classification with regard to the budget estimates for the coming year may be, I, for one, cannot see eye to eye with the Financial Secretary in regard to the adoption of this change of classification so far as the revised estimates for the current year are concerned.

Sir, the object of preparing revised estimates, is to enable a comparison to be made with the original budget estimate and to see how far there have been deviations from revenue and expenditure as originally estimated. This object will be frustrated if a change of classification is adopted during the same year. With regard to the change

[Mr. Chattanatha Karayalar.]

of classification in the budget estimates for the coming year, I find from the Financial Secretary's speech that certain items of expenditure have been classified under capital not charged to revenue, though ordinarily they would have been charged to revenue. I refer to two items mentioned in his speech at page 4, namely, the construction of a Council Chamber and the widening of certain roads in Trivandrum. The Financial Secretary has described them as non-productive schemes. I do not know by what criterion he calls them 'schemes'. I do not know if we can call road-making a scheme. If this criterion is adopted, every new item of work, every bridge and every new road, will have to be treated as capital work not chargeable to revenue.

I would just offer a few remarks about capital works and the way in which they are financed. Last year, Government stated it as their definite policy that, with regard to the financing of reproductive works, though Government might indent on their reserve in the first instance, it is but right that the schemes should eventually be met only from borrowed capital. They meant that whatever funds might be drawn from the reserves to be used for reproductive works they will be recouped from the borrowed funds. Sir, the outlay on capital re-productive works till the end of 1111 comes to Rs. 75.69 lakhs. The proposal is to spend Rs. 34 lakhs on such schemes in 1112 making up a total sum of about 110 lakhs of rupees. I do not find any reason why Government have not taken courage to finance all these schemes by borrowed capital. This House has unmistakably expressed its opinion that these schemes should be met from borrowed funds. Yet Government have not done so. I want the Government to implement their promise and to respect the wishes of this House. (*President's Bell.*)

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Sir, to me it appears that, in this land of agriculture, the chief and foremost institution ought to be the Agricultural Department. As such, I thought, as other members also thought, that in the budget for the next year the maximum allotment will be made for the Agricultural Department. It is admitted on all hands that our salvation rests in the development of industries. We have a striking deviation in the present budget, namely, that Government are going to support more and more industries. Sir, we generally used to imitate British India in the matter of formulating our policies. I am sorry to note that Government have deviated from this policy in the present budget. We have a herald of the agricultural regeneration of India in the present Viceroy and naturally we thought that there will be agricultural regeneration in our State also. But what do we see here? We see that Government are spending a lot on industrial development without paying the necessary attention to agricultural development.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: One point has to be made clear. This House has sanctioned, without raising much objection, funds ~~both~~ for the rubber factory and the Pallivasal works. So you cannot say

that Government are spending money on industrial development without the sanction of the House.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): I do not complain that we are spending on industrial development. All that I say is that, side by side with that, we must not forget agricultural development in our country. Sir, this half-hearted policy in our State should not be permitted. After all, we have only a few stud bulls in the town of Trivandrum. I take it, Sir, that it is done in imitation of the stud bulls presented by the Viceroy.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Why should you drag in the Viceroy's name here?

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Sir, it is a shame to our Government that we are not supporting the Agricultural Department. There is an Agricultural Inspector's office at Muvattupuzha. Very few know that there is such an office there. The very nature of the board set up before the office is sufficient indication of the state of the department. Even in Trivandrum that is the case. Sir, it is a shame to our country that the Department of Agriculture, which ought to be the foremost in this land, is kept in a very bad and an unhealthy condition.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is it the fault of the Department or the Government that there are no suitable boards?

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): I only stated that by way of illustration to show that proper encouragement is not given to the department by the Government.

Sir, much has been said about the town-planning scheme. I do not share the opinion of certain members who opposed the policy of town-planning. The earlier town-planning is done the better. If at all it is to be considered as an evil, it is a necessary evil that ought to be taken up without much delay. In order that we may avoid further evil in this matter, I want to point out that the town-planning system should be extended to other budding towns also. When there is industrial development in our country, many a new town will be springing up. With the completion of the Pallivasal scheme, I hope several new towns will come up. Government should have a definite and comprehensive policy in the matter of the development of these towns.

One word with regard to Jenmikaram settlement and the irregularities that are going on in this matter. Sir, when the Jenmi-Kudiyar Regulation was passed, we thought that the relation between the Jenmies and Kudiyars would be settled once for all. But that is not the case. We are getting into further and further troubles. In this connection, I want to mention one point. I had tabled an adjournment motion twice. There was some misunderstanding with regard to that. With your permission, Sir, may I speak a word about that? I had sent a letter also along with the motion last time and that was considered as more or less insulting to the House and not in keeping with the dignity of the House.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : You are not concerned with the dignity of the House in that matter. How does it come within the scope of the general discussion on the Budget?

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (Muvattupuzha II) : As a side-remark.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : As far as possible, please avoid side-remarks.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (Muvattupuzha II) : Sir, my attempt to bring to the notice of the House a very important point did not meet with success twice.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Your time is nearly up. Please try to close your remarks on the Budget.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (Muvattupuzha II) : In the early stages of the Jenmikaram Settlement, the *para* mentioned as the Agrasala *para* in certain documents, was taken to be equivalent to the standard *para*; but the cubical content of the Agrasala *para* is only 640 cubic inches where as the cubical content of the standard *para* is equal to 800 cubic inches. Now this is an obvious mistake committed by Government by which the poor ignorant *kudiyar* was put to considerable loss. Subsequently Government found out the mistake and orders were issued to rectify the same. Naturally the Jenmies agitated on the matter and the Government, without adhering to the correct position, seem to have yielded to the clamour of the influential Jenmies, as is seen from the subsequent order of the Government by which evidence is sought for to establish the equality between the two *paras*. I cannot for a moment think of the incongruity of such an order. Sir, is not the Agrasala *para* a concrete measure still in existence? Cannot the cubical contents of the same be measured and verified?

Why should Government put on a wavering attitude in matters as clear as day light? What I want to stress upon the Government is that they should take up this question immediately and rectify the mistake committed by them by revising all those settled cases in which the Agrasala *para*, was taken to be equal to the standard *para*. Otherwise the Government will be doing a great injustice to the poor *kudiyar* who is always at the mercy of the rapacious Jenmi.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kalkulam II) : Sir, the Budget for 1112 presented by the Financial Secretary is, according to him, a surplus budget. I fail to see how it is a surplus budget. By an adjustment of figures, he has shown that it is a surplus budget. The budget has become surplus with the aid of borrowed capital.

Sir, the bulk of the population of Travancore follow agriculture as their occupation. The agriculturists are now in very great difficulties since they are heavily indebted. It is a well-known fact; and Government have realised the necessity of interference and help to console the agriculturists. The State has borrowed, like most of the agriculturists, and they are debtors to that extent. The Agricultural Department in the State does not bestow proper attention on the salvation of the agriculturists. The Relief Bill which is intended to relieve the condition of the agriculturists is very badly needed in the shape of a Regulation.

There are two schools, one Agricultural School at Konni and the other at Kottarakara. A school in South Travancore is quite welcome. We know that South Travancore forms the granary of Travancore and an Agricultural School will be of some use to them.

As regards, means of communication in the rural parts, the budget has provided only very little funds for that purpose. Adequate funds are not provided in the next year's budget for rural reconstruction. To beautify the town of Trivandrum, the budget provides lakhs and lakhs of rupees every year. Very little attention is bestowed on village roads, tank maintenance, etc. Irrigation facilities are not given.

The A. V. M. Canal, connecting Trivandrum and Cape Comorin, may be developed so as to benefit the means of water communication to the population of the State. Before considering costly arrangements by way of extending the railway from Trivandrum to Nagercoil, the development of the canal may be considered for cheap communications.

As pointed out by Mr. Paramesvara Aiyar, a reduction in land revenue is quite welcome at this time till normal conditions are restored. The condition of agriculturists demands a permanent reduction of land-tax.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : If that is so, how can it be a permanent feature?

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (Kalkulam II) : For permanent reduction of land tax the Land Revenue Commissioner may say that this question will be considered at the time of the next settlement. But I may say, that, at present, to give substantial relief to the agriculturists from their indebtedness, some reduction towards land revenue is absolutely necessary; a show of relief or sympathy is not at all enough.

A word about the distribution of water under the Kodayar Irrigation Project. Formerly there was a block board system working satisfactorily and now that has been abolished. No other system exists for the distribution of water. On that score there is very great discontent among the ryots. That should be remedied as early as possible to save calamity and wastage of water. Separate water cess to the extent of Rs. 7 per acre is realised from the three taluks of South Travancore and it is a pity to observe that no proper arrangement for the distribution of water for irrigation purpose has been made by the P. W. D. doing that work at present.

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (Vaikam) : സർ, ഹൃദയം കൊണ്ട് ഓരോന്നും ഉറപ്പായി വരുത്തുന്നതിനായി പ്രസ്താവിക്കുന്നു. ഇതുകൊണ്ട് ധനകാര്യവകുപ്പിന്റെ കൃത്യമായ അടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നതായി കാണുന്നു. ഈ സഭയുടെ അടങ്ങിക്കാലങ്ങളിലെ നടപടി നോക്കുന്നതായാൽ, ഇവിടെ പ്രതിനിധികളിൽ ഭൂരിപക്ഷവും വരവിൽ ഒരുഭാഗം മിച്ചം വെച്ചു തീരുന്നതായതെ പ്രതിഷേധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണാം. മൂന്നു രൂപയും രൂപയുടെ മിച്ചംതന്നെ യഥാർത്ഥമായ മിച്ചമായിരിക്കുമോ

[Mr. V. K. Velappan Nair]

എന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കു മുൻപു സംസാരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മെമ്പർമാർ കാര്യകാരണസമിതം പ്രസ്താവിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. ൧൧൧൦-ലെ യഥാർത്ഥവരവിന്റെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് ൧൧൧൨-ലെ പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്ന വരവ് ൧൮.൯൦ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ കൂടുതലാണെന്നു കാണുന്നു. ഈ കൂടുതലിനുള്ള ന്യായം കാണുന്നില്ല. ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി കരുതിയിട്ടുള്ള ഇനങ്ങളിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ഒരു സുസ്ഥിരമായ വരവായി ഗണിക്കാവുന്നത് കൊച്ചിൻ ഫാർബറിൽ നിന്ന് പുകയിലത്തീരുവയിനത്തിൽ വരേണ്ട ലക്ഷം രൂപ മാത്രമാണ്. ബാക്കി ഇനങ്ങൾ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സാമ്പത്തികാധിപതനത്തിന്റെ മുൻപുനാദശയിൽ മിക്കവാറും ഉണ്ടാകുമോ എന്നു സംശയമാണ്. മുൻപുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ലാത്ത വിധം വൻപിച്ച തുക പൊതുമാരാമത്തിനും മറ്റുമായി ഇത്തവണത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. ഈ തുകയിൽ അധികം ഭാഗവും സുഖലോലുപന്മാരായി താമസിക്കുന്ന പട്ടണവാസികൾക്കുവേണ്ടി വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നതിനാണ് ഗവൺമെന്റു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇംഗ്ലീഷിൽ പറയുന്ന "Rob Peter to pay Paul" എന്ന നയമാണ് ഗവൺമെന്റു ഇവിടെ സ്വീകരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. സാധുക്കളും ഗ്രാമവാസികളും ആയ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി വിനിയോഗിക്കേണ്ട പണം കൂടി പട്ടണവാസികളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി വിനിയോഗിക്കുക എന്ന നയം നിശ്ചയമായും ആക്ഷേപാർഹം തന്നെയാണ്.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ സാംക്രമികരോഗങ്ങൾ ഭയങ്കരമായി ഉപദ്രവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു കാലമാണ് ഇത്. ഈ ഉപദ്രവത്തെ നാട്ടിൽ നിന്നും പാടെ വിപാടനം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇതിലേക്കു പബ്ലിക് ഹെൽത്ത് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ നിന്നും സമർപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന റിപ്പോർട്ടുവ്യയമേതുകൊണ്ടുള്ള കാരണത്താൽ അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നും തൽക്കാലം പതിനായിരം രൂപാ മാത്രമേ ഈയാണ്ടിൽ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളൂ എന്നും ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. മനുഷ്യരുടെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണത്തിനുള്ള പ്രധാന്യതയും ഗവൺമെന്റിന് ആ കാര്യത്തിലുള്ള ചുമതലയും നോക്കുമ്പോൾ, ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി ഇപ്രകാരം പറഞ്ഞു സമാധാനപ്പെടുന്നത് ശരിയല്ല. സർവ്വപ്രധാനമായ മനുഷ്യരുടെ ആരോഗ്യപാലനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ വളരെ കൂടുതലായി പതിയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

അതു പോലെതന്നെ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം പട്ടണത്തിലെ റോഡുകളും മറ്റുമെഴുകുതളങ്ങളും വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ മാത്രം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്ന

ഗവൺമെന്റ്, പൊതുമരാമത വകുപ്പിൽ, ഉൾനാടുകളിലെ ഗതാഗത ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കുകൂടി കുറെ തുക കൊള്ളിക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നത് ഗ്രാമവാസികളായ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് വളരെ സങ്കടകരമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. ഈ നയവും ആക്ഷേപാർഹമായിട്ടുള്ളതാകുന്നു.

കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം ആയുർവ്വേദ വൈദ്യസമ്പ്രദായത്തെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി കൂടുതൽ വൈദ്യശാലകൾക്കു ഗ്രാൻറ് കൊടുക്കുന്ന നയം ഗവൺമെന്റ് അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണാം. എന്നാൽ, ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തിൽ, അതിലേക്ക് കൂടുതലായി ഒരു കാശു പോലും ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

ഇത് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ മാത്രമല്ല. വ്യവസ്ഥാപിതമായ ഒരു നയം സ്വീകരിച്ച് തുടരുന്ന ഒരു പതിവു നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെന്റിനില്ല.

ചില വ്യവസായങ്ങളെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന് ഗവൺമെന്റ് ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നതായി കാണുന്നു. രാജ്യത്തെ വ്യവസായികരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഒരു ചെറിയ ശ്രമം ഇപ്പോൾ തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നിരുന്നാലും ഇപ്പോൾ നടപ്പിലാക്കുന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥകളും ഗവൺമെന്റ് ആവിഷ്കരണത്തിൽ കൈക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന നയവും തീരെ തൃപ്തികരമായിരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇവിടുത്തെ അസംസ്കൃതസാധനങ്ങളുടെ സമൃദ്ധിയും പ്രതിനിധിന്റെ കാര്യവും രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ മറ്റു സ്ഥിതികളുംകൂടി നോക്കിയാൽ ഇവിടെ ഒരിക്കലും വ്യവസായശ്രമങ്ങൾ പരാജയപ്പെടുവാൻ ഇടയില്ല. ഏതൊരു വ്യവസായമാണ് ഈ നാട്ടിൽ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താൻ പറ്റാത്തതെന്ന് എന്ന് ഗവൺമെന്റിനു എളുപ്പത്തിൽ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്. ഇവിടെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയ വ്യവസായങ്ങളെല്ലാം പരാജയപ്പെടുത്താൻ പറ്റാത്തതായിരിക്കണമെന്ന് പല മെമ്പർമാരും ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. അതിനുള്ള കാരണം യോഗ്യമായും വ്യവസായതൽപരന്മാരുമായ ആളുകളെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരായി നിയമിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് മാത്രമാണെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. മേലാലൈകിലും റബ്ബർഫാക്ടറി മുതലായ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി സ്വദേശസ്നേഹവും ഉത്തരവാദിത്വബോധവും വ്യവസായതൽപരതയും രാജ്യക്ഷേമകാംക്ഷയും ഉള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ നിയമിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവൺമെന്റ് പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

സുസ്ഥിരമായ ഒരു നയം ഗവൺമെന്റ് ഒരു കാര്യത്തിലും അനുവർത്തിച്ചു കാണുന്നില്ല. നിയന്ത്രണാധീനമായ വ്യയനൂനീകരണത്തിനു പോലും ഗവൺമെന്റ് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഈ നയം ആപൽക്കരമാണ്.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): സർ, ധനകാര്യമന്ത്രി അവർകൾ ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റുമിച്ച് വരുത്തിയാണ് അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. സൂക്ഷിച്ചുനോക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അങ്ങനെ മിച്ചംവരുത്താൻ സാധ്യമല്ലെന്നു കാണാൻ കഴിയും. ൧൧൧൨-ൽ ഏതാനും ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിൽ കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലത്തെക്കാൾ വരവുകൂടുമെന്നും അങ്ങനെ മിച്ചം വരുത്താമെന്നുമാണ് ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽസെക്രട്ടറി പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്നത്. ഭൂനികുതി ഇനത്തിലും, വ്യവസായഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിലെ ചില ഇനങ്ങളിലും അതുപോലുള്ള മറ്റുചില ഇനങ്ങളിലും നിന്നു അടുത്തകൊല്ലം കൂടുതൽ വരവ് പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ധനകാര്യമന്ത്രി അവർകൾ ഒന്നരണ്ടു കാര്യങ്ങൾ വിട്ടുപോയിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നാണ് എനിക്കുതോന്നുന്നത്. അടുത്തകൊല്ലത്തിൽ രണ്ടുലക്ഷത്തി ഏഴുപത്തയ്യായിരം രൂപ കൂടുതൽ ഭൂനികുതി ഇനത്തിൽ വരവുണ്ടാകുമെന്നാണ് അദ്ദേഹം പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്നത് ഇതു ശരിയല്ല. കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടുകൊല്ലങ്ങളിലെ അനുഭവം നോക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇങ്ങനെ കണക്കാക്കപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ലെന്നു കാണാം. ഏതാനും സംഖ്യകൾ ൧൧൦൯-ലും ൧൧൧൦-ലും കുറവു എഴുതിത്തള്ളിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ൧൧൦൯-ലും ൧൧൧൦-ലും കൂടി ഏകദേശം മൂന്നുലക്ഷത്തിൽപരം രൂപയാണ് ഇപ്രകാരം കുറവു എഴുതിത്തള്ളിയിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഇനി ൧൧൧൧-ലും ൧൧൧൨-ലും കൂടിയങ്ങനെ കുറവു എഴുതേണ്ടിവരുന്ന സംഖ്യയുടെ തുക എന്തായിരിക്കുമെന്നും ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സാമ്പത്തികാധിപതനാവസ്ഥയെകൂടി പരിഗണിച്ചു നോക്കുന്നപക്ഷം നമുക്കു ഏറ്റക്കുറച്ചൊരളം കഴിയുന്നതാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട്, അടുത്തയാണ്ടിൽ ഭൂനികുതിയിനത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ വരവുണ്ടാകുമെന്നുള്ള പ്രതീക്ഷ അടിസ്ഥാനരഹിതമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഈ രീതിയിൽത്തന്നെ സാമ്പത്തികാധിപനാമുന്നോട്ടു തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടുപോകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഈ ഇനത്തിൽ ൨,൮൫,൦൦൦ രൂപ എങ്ങനെ കൂടുതലായി അടുത്തകൊല്ലം വരുത്താൻ കഴിയുമെന്ന് എത്ര ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടും എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ കഴിയില്ല. നാളികേരത്തിന്റെ വില ദിവസംപ്രതി എന്നോണം ഇടിഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടുണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. നാളികേരത്തിന് വിലകിട്ടാതെ കരം ഏങ്ങിനെകൊടുക്കും? ജീവസന്ധാരണത്തിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾപോലും കാണാതെ വലയുന്ന അനേകായിരം ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽനിന്നു ഏകദേശം മൂന്നുലക്ഷംരൂപ വരുത്തുകൊല്ലം കൂടുതലായി കിട്ടും എന്നുവിചാരിക്കുന്നത് അനുഭവത്തിൽ പരാൻ എളുപ്പമില്ലാത്ത ഒരു വിചാരമാണെന്നു കാണാൻ കഴിയും. അതുകൊണ്ട്, ധനകാര്യമന്ത്രി അവർകൾ കൊണ്ടുവന്ന ആ കണക്കു തെറ്റാണെന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല.

ഉൾനാടുകളിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കായി ഈയാണ്ടത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന തുക വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞുപോയി എന്ന് മിക്കമെമ്പരന്മാരും ഇവിടെ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. ഞാനും ആ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു യോജിക്കുന്നു. എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിലെ കഥതന്നെ പറയാം. കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങളുടേയും സ്ത്രീകളുടേയും ഒരാശുപതി ആലപ്പുഴ സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്ന് പലനാളായി ഗവൺമെന്റിനോടപേക്ഷിക്കുകയും ഒടുവിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റു അത് അനുവദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. പക്ഷെ, ഒരു കാശുപോലും അതിനായി ഈ അടുത്ത ആണ്ടിൽ നീക്കിവെച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഉൾനാടുകളിലെ ഗതാഗതമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളെ വെച്ചുപിടിച്ചുനിർത്തുന്ന കാര്യത്തെ സമ്പന്നിച്ച് പല അവസരങ്ങളിലും അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടും അതിനായി ഒരു രൊററ പൈപ്പോലും ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഈ വക കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കായി, ഗവൺമെന്റു അനാവശ്യമായി ചെലവുചെയ്യുന്ന തുക ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ മതിയാകുമായിരുന്നു. ഏകദേശം ആറുലക്ഷത്തിൽപരം രൂപാ ചെലവുചെയ്തുവെട്ടിയ ആലപ്പുഴ—ചേൽപ്പാ റോഡ് ഇന്നും ഉപയോഗശൂന്യമായിരിക്കുകയാണെന്ന് എന്റെ ബഹുമാന്യസ്നേഹിതൻ പൊട്ടയിൽ മി. കൃഷ്ണപ്പണിക്കർ പറയുകയുണ്ടായല്ലോ. അതിനുവേണ്ടി ചെലവഴിച്ച ഒരൊററ പൈപ്പോലും ഗവൺമെന്റിനോ ജനങ്ങൾക്കോ ഉപകരിക്കുകയുണ്ടായില്ല. അതുപോലെതന്നെ, ചങ്ങനാശേരി—ആലപ്പുഴ റോഡും എത്രയോലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചെലവുചെയ്തു വെട്ടിയതാണ്. എന്ത് പ്രയോജനമാണ് അതുകൊണ്ടു ഉണ്ടായത്?

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (Nominated) : സർ, ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി അവർക്കു അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള നവവത്സരബഡ്ജറ്റ് ചെലവിനുള്ള നീക്കി മിച്ചമുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു. വരവിനു യോജിച്ചവിധം ചെലവുകൾ നിയന്ത്രിക്കേണ്ട കടമ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിക്കുള്ളതാണ്. പുതിയ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി അവർക്കു തന്റെ ജോലി ശരിയായി നിർവഹിച്ചു കാണുന്നതിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അഭിനന്ദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. കഴിഞ്ഞ വർഷങ്ങളിലെപ്പോലെയൊരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകളിലെയും ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കും പുതിയ പുതിയ പരിഷ്കാരങ്ങൾക്കും വേണ്ട സംഖ്യകൾ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ നീക്കിവെച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. ഗ്രാമീണരും സാധാരണക്കാരായ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കുപോലും പരക്കെ പ്രയോജനമുള്ള പബ്ലിക് ഹെൽത്ത്, അഗ്രിക്കൾച്ചർ, ഇൻഡസ്ട്രിയൽ, ആയുർവേദം എന്നീ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകളിലേക്ക് നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുകകൾ കേവലം പരിമിതങ്ങളായിട്ടാണു കാണുന്നത്. പ്രസ്തുത ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകൾ എല്ലാംതന്നെ പൊതുക്കേ

മത്തിനും അത്യാവശ്യങ്ങളായ അനുവധി കാര്യങ്ങൾ നിർവഹിക്കുവാൻ കഴിയുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണ്. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റുകൾ വഴിയായി വേണ്ടതു ഇതിലുമധികം ചെയ്യുവാൻ സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ നൽകേണ്ടതത്രാവശ്യം തന്നെയാണ്.

ബഡ്ജറ്റിനെക്കുറിച്ച് ഈ സമിതിയിലെ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട പല മെമ്പർമാരും നിശിതങ്ങളായ നിരൂപണങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുകഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുകയാണല്ലോ. ആരുതന്നെ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കാതിരുന്നിട്ടുള്ളതും പരമപാപങ്ങളായ അധഃകൃതവർഗ്ഗക്കാരെ സംബന്ധിക്കുന്നതുമായ ചില കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ദയാദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാനാണ് ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നത്. അതിനവർതുടങ്ങി അരശർവരെയുള്ള പത്തൊമ്പതു ജാതികളിലായി ൮,൧൭,൦൦൦-അംഗങ്ങളാണ്. അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷണവകുപ്പിലെ ആനുകൂല്യങ്ങൾക്കു അർഹരായിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഇവരുടെ സംരക്ഷണത്തിനായി ഇക്കൊല്ലം അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യ ൧൫,൦൦൦ രൂപമാത്രമാണ്. ഇതിൽ ൫,൦൦൦ രൂപ ഇവരുടെ പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനുവേണ്ടി അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നതിൽ സന്തോഷിക്കുകയും, അധഃകൃതരുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസനില മനസ്സിലാക്കി സഭയം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചു ഈ വിധമൊരാനുകൂല്യമുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ ശ്രദ്ധിച്ച എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ ഡയറക്ടറവർക്കുള്ള സബ്ബഹിതം അഭിനന്ദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ബാക്കിയുള്ള ൧൦,൦൦൦ രൂപയാണ് എട്ടുലക്ഷത്തിലധികമുള്ള അധഃകൃതരുടെ സംരക്ഷണത്തിനനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഈ ചെറിയ സംഖ്യകൊണ്ടു നാനാതരത്തിൽ അവശതകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുപോരുന്ന ജനസമുദായങ്ങളെ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഏതുവിധത്തിൽ സംരക്ഷിച്ചു സമാധാനിപ്പിക്കുമെന്നറിയില്ല. അധഃകൃതരുടെ ഭീനഭീനാവസ്ഥകൾ അസാമാന്യങ്ങളാണ്. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അവരുടെ സമുന്നമനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി അനുവദിക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യകൾ പ്രയോജനപ്പെടാതിരുന്നത് വളരെ കഷ്ടമാണ്. സഭയം അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷണ വകുപ്പിന്റെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കായി നീക്കിവക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യകൾ എങ്കിലും യഥായോഗ്യം ചെലവാക്കുമെങ്കിൽ നന്നായിരുന്നു.

കഴിഞ്ഞ വർഷങ്ങളിൽ അനുവദിച്ചിരുന്ന സംഖ്യകളിൽ ഓരോ ഭാഗം ആണ്ടുവസാനത്തിൽ ലാപ്സായിപ്പോയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത വിസ്മരിക്കുന്നില്ല. മേലാലൈങ്കിലും അപ്രകാരം സംഭവിക്കാതിരിക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നിഷ്കർഷാപൂർവ്വം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. നാടുവാഴുന്ന പൊന്നത്തമ്പുരാൻ തിരുമേനിക്കു അതീവതാൽപര്യമുള്ള സാധുരക്ഷണം കൃത്യമായി നിർവ്വഹിക്കുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ തല്പരരാകാതിരുന്നത് നിശ്ചയമായും അധഃകൃതനമനത്തിനുള്ള പുറപ്പാട് നിഷ്പഫല

മായിട്ടേ പയ്യവസാനിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. അയൽ രാജ്യങ്ങളിലെപ്പോലെ ഇവിടെയും ആരംഭിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷണവകുപ്പ് ഒന്നു പ്രത്യേകമായി ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നു ഫൈനാൻസ് കമ്മററിയിൽ അനുജ്ഞാഗന്ധമെമ്പറന്മാർ അഭിപ്രായം പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതായും അതിനായി വാദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായും വർത്തമാനപ്പത്രങ്ങൾ വഴിയായി അറിയാൻ സാധിച്ചു. എന്നാൽ ജോലി നടത്തിപ്പിന്റെ കറവുകളാലോ മറ്റോ അങ്ങനെയൊരുഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടായതായിട്ടാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്. അശരണരായ അനേകായിരങ്ങളുടെ സംരക്ഷണത്തിന് നീശ്ചയമായും ഒരു സ്വതന്ത്രമായ വകുപ്പുതന്നെയാണാവശ്യം. എങ്കിൽ മാത്രമേ എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രായോഗികങ്ങളായ സഹായങ്ങൾ അധഃകൃതർ ചെയ്യുവാൻ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷണവകുപ്പിന്റെ ഇന്നത്തെ നിർജ്ജീവനില ഒന്നു നന്നാക്കുവാനും കൂടുതൽ സൗജന്യ ജലം നൽകുവാനും ഗവണ്മെന്റുടേതാവൂപം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം. മറ്റു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകൾ വഴിയായി അധഃകൃതരുടെ ഉന്നമനത്തിനു ധാരാളം പ്രവർത്തിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ് എന്നാൽ മിക്ക ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു മേലധികാരികളും ഇവരുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ നിർഭയമനോഭാവം കൈക്കൊള്ളുകയാണ് ചെയ്യുന്നത്. അതിനാൽ അധഃകൃതസംരക്ഷണം ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ പ്രധാനധർമ്മമായി കരുതിവേണ്ടതുകൊണ്ടുവാണ് ദയവുണ്ടാകണമെന്ന് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെയും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനെയും സാദരം ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (Parur) : സർ, മൂന്നു ലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലവാനം മിച്ചമുള്ള ഈ ബഡ്ജറ്റു് എത്രത്തോളം ആശാസ്യമായ ഒന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതു് കണ്ടുതന്നെ അറിയേണ്ടതാണ്. റവന്യൂവിൽനിന്നും ചെലവു് ചെയ്യേണ്ട പ്രധാന കാരങ്ങളെല്ലാം മൂലധനച്ചെലവുകളാക്കി കൊള്ളിച്ചതു് കൊണ്ടാണ് ഫൈനാൻഷ്യൽസെക്രട്ടറി അവർകൾക്കു ഈ മിച്ചം കാണിക്കുന്നതിനു സാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ചെലവുകൾ ഇങ്ങനെ ഇന്നു മാറിക്കൊള്ളിച്ചതിന്റെ ഔചിത്യം എത്രമാത്രമുണ്ടെന്നു എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. കൗൺസിൽ ചേമ്പർ പോലെയുള്ള ആദായകരമല്ലാത്ത പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്കായി ചെലവാക്കാൻ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുക മൂലധനച്ചെലവിൽ കൊള്ളിക്കാമെങ്കിൽ എന്തുകൊണ്ടു്, ജലസേചനത്തിനായി കിണറു കഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും കെട്ടിടങ്ങളുടെ അറ്റകുറ്റപ്പണികൾക്കും മറ്റുമുള്ള തുകകൾക്കു് ആ ഇനത്തിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചുകൂടാ എന്നാണു ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്. നമ്മുടെ ചെലവുകളെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കുകയല്ലയോ പ്രധാനമായി ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്?

[Mr. K. P. Krishnan Menon.]

ചെങ്കോട്ട, നാഗർകോവിൽ, ആലപ്പുഴ എന്നീ മൂന്നു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ജലവിതരണം നടത്തുന്നതിനു ഓരോ തുകകൾ ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ, അതിനുവേണ്ടി ഓരോ സ്ഥലത്തേക്കും ഓരോ എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് എൻജിനീയറും അവരുടെ സിൽബസ്തികളെയുംകൂടി നിയമിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള തുകകൾകൂടി കൊള്ളിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു വാട്ടർവർക്ക്സ് എൻജിനീയർ ഉണ്ട്. കൂടാതെ ഒരു ഡ്രെയിനേജ് എഞ്ചിനീയറും സബ്ഡിവിഷൻ ആഫീസറുമാരും സെക്ഷൻ ആഫീസറുമാരും ഉണ്ട്. അവരിൽ ഒരാളിന്റെ ചുമതലയിൽതന്നെ ഈ മൂന്നു സ്ഥലത്തെയും ജലവിതരണം സംബന്ധിച്ച ജോലികൾ നടത്തുന്നതിന് പ്രാസാദിച്ചു. പിന്നെ ഇതിലേക്കു, മൂന്നു എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് എൻജിനീയറുമാരുടെ ആവശ്യം എന്താണ്? ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഇങ്ങനെ വ്യയനിയന്ത്രണം ചെയ്യാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ വരവുകൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ടിവിഷമിക്കാതെ കഴിക്കുമായിരുന്നു; കടം വാങ്ങിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യവും ഉണ്ടാകുമായിരുന്നില്ല.

ഇന്നു നാട്ടിനെ ബാധിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന തരത്തിലുള്ള സാമ്പത്തികാധിപതനകാലത്ത് പൊതുമരാമത്തുവകുപ്പാണ് ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ ഉപകരിക്കേണ്ട വകുപ്പ്. ആ വകുപ്പിൽ അനവദിക്കുന്ന തുക പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ ചെലവാക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയാൽ കഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ നിവസിക്കുന്ന സാധുക്കളായ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അതുകൊണ്ടു എന്തു രക്ഷയാണ് ലഭിക്കുന്നത്? ഇതിനും പുറമെ നാട്ടിൻപുറത്തുള്ളവരെ ഉപദ്രവിക്കുന്നതിനായി കഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ ടോൾ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനുകൂടി ഗവണ്മെന്റ് മടിക്കുന്നില്ല. കൂടാതെ വില്ലേജുകളിൽ അതാതിടത്തായി രണ്ടും മൂന്നും വീതം സബ് ടോളുകളും ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെ സബ് ടോളുകൾ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതെന്തിനാണെന്നു ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയറോടു ചോദിച്ചപ്പോൾ അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞത് ബസ്സു യാത്രകളെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കാനാണെന്നാണ്. പക്ഷെ, അതിൽകൂടി കടക്കുന്ന ചക്കിടാവണ്ടികളും മറ്റുള്ള വാഹനങ്ങളും ടോൾ കൊടുത്തുവേണം പോകാൻ നുകൂടി വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നത് എന്തിനാണ്?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): ബസ്സുകാരെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കുവാൻ ട്രാഫിക് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റ് ഇല്ലയോ?

അവരെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കുന്നതിനു ട്രാഫിക് പോലീസും എല്ലാമുണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ എന്തിനാണ് പി. വ. ബ്ലിയു. ഡി-ക്കാർ ലൈസൻസും കൊടുക്കുന്നത്?

ഒത്തു ഇങ്ങനെ സബ്സോളുകൾ ഏർപ്പാടുത്തി ചക്കിടാവണ്ടിക്കാരെയും മറ്റുമുള്ള വാചനമടമസ്ഥനാരെയും ഉപദ്രവിക്കുന്നത്. ടോളുകാർ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു കൊടുക്കുന്ന പണത്തിനു ചക്കിടാവണ്ടിക്കാരെയും മറ്റും ഉപദ്രവിച്ചു ടോൾ വാങ്ങിക്കാക്കുന്നുപോലും! എന്താരുമൊണ് നാട്ടിൽ നടക്കുന്നത്? ഇക്കാര്യങ്ങളിലെല്ലാം ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു മുതലെടുപ്പു വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതിനും വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും ഉള്ള എല്ലാ മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളും അടഞ്ഞുവെക്കുകയാണ്. ആദായനികുതിയും കഷ്ടിച്ചു ചുങ്കവും—ഈ രണ്ടിനങ്ങൾ കഴിഞ്ഞാൽപിന്നെ മുതലെടുപ്പു വർദ്ധിച്ചുപതമെന്നു ആശിക്കാവുന്ന ഇനങ്ങൾ പേറെ ഏതുണ്ട്? ഫാറസ്ററ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻററിനെ തന്നെ ചുട്ടുകൊ. പതിവു ഭൂമികളിലെ രാജകീയവൃക്ഷങ്ങളെല്ലാം വെട്ടിമുറിച്ചുതുനിമിത്തം അതിൽ നിന്നും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ലഭിക്കാവുന്ന മുതലെടുപ്പിന്റെ അപസാനം കണ്ടുതുടങ്ങി രാജകീയവൃക്ഷങ്ങളുടെ മൊണാപ്പളി ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു വിട്ടു കൊടുത്തു. അതിന്റെ ഒന്നാം സെക്ഷൻ കഴിഞ്ഞു. രണ്ടാമത്തെ സെക്ഷൻ രണ്ടുകൊല്ലമുണ്ട്; മൂന്നാമത്തെ സെക്ഷൻ അഞ്ചുകൊല്ലമുണ്ട്. ഇതുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ആ ഇനത്തിൽനിന്നും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ലഭിക്കുന്ന വരവു പൂജ്യംതന്നെ. അന്നു ൧൦൦ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ൨൦൦ രൂപയുടെ ഒരു കൺസർവേറർ മതിയാകും. ഫാറസ്ററ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻററു ഇന്നു നടത്തുന്നത് ഡിസ്ട്രക്ടീവ് പാളിസിയായാണ്. അല്ലാതെ കൺസർവേഷൻ അശേഷമില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെ നാളത്തെ കായുത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു ചിന്തിക്കാതെയിരുന്നാൽ എത്രദിവസം മേല്ലോട്ടു പോകുവാൻ സാധിക്കും. വർക്കിംഗ്ലാൻ എന്നൊരു ഏർപ്പാടു ഫാറസ്ററ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഉണ്ട്. അതിലേക്ക് ഈയാണ്ടത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ വല്ലതുകയും കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ? നമ്മുടെ വരവും ചെലവും ആണ്ടതോറും നിയന്ത്രിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു വരുകയാണ് വേണ്ടത്. ഈ ന്യൂനതയും പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു ശ്രമിക്കണം.

ഇനി ആയുർവേദഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് എനിയ്ക്ക് ഒരു വാക്കു പറയാനുള്ളത്. കഗ്രാമങ്ങളിലുള്ള ചില വൈദ്യശാലകൾക്ക് ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന് ആരെങ്കിലും ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു അവരോടു പറയുന്ന സമാധാനം അവിടെ രോഗം ഇല്ലെന്നാണ്. ഇപ്പോഴായിട്ട് ഒരു വിഷവൈദ്യശാലയ്ക്ക് ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു വശ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ആ വൈദ്യശാലകൊണ്ട് അവിടെയുള്ള അനവധി ആളു

[Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan.]

കർക്ക പ്രയോജനമുണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു ആ നാട്ടുകാർതന്നെ സാക്ഷ്യപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തു. അതിന് ആയുർവേദഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽനിന്നും ലഭിച്ച മറുപടി „ഇപ്പോളിവിൽ വേറൊരു ആയുർവേദവൈദ്യശാലയ്ക്ക് ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട്, ഈ വൈദ്യശാലയ്ക്ക് ഗ്രാൻറു നൽകാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ല“ എന്നായിരുന്നു. അവിടെ ഒരു നാട്ടുവൈദ്യശാല സ്ഥാപിച്ചതുകൊണ്ട് ഒരു വിഷവൈദ്യശാലയുടെ ആവശ്യമില്ല എന്നു പറയുവാൻ തുടങ്ങിയാൽ എന്താണു ചെയ്യേണ്ടത്? അവിടെയുള്ള ആളുകളെല്ലാം പാമ്പുകടിച്ചു മരിക്കട്ടെ എന്നാണോ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്.

വില്ലേജ് പഞ്ചായത്തുകൾ സ്ഥാപിച്ചാൽ അതുവഴിയെങ്കിലും നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിലെ സാനിറ്റേഷൻ, വൈദ്യസഹായം മുതലായ കാര്യങ്ങൾ നടക്കുമായിരുന്നു. അതിനെപ്പറ്റിയും ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു അന്വേഷിക്കാറില്ല. രാജധാനിയിൽ വേണ്ട സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടത് അത്യാവശ്യംതന്നെയാണ്. എന്നാൽ നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളെ അതുനിമിത്തം തീരെ വിസ്തരിച്ചുകളയാൻ പാടുള്ളതല്ല.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): സർ, ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയുടെ സ്റ്റേറ്റ്മെന്റിനെപ്പറ്റി പല ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പർമാരും പല വിധത്തിലും അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടുകഴിഞ്ഞു. എന്നാൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ബഡ്ജറ്റു പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ അധികൃതരെപ്പറ്റി യാതൊന്നുംതന്നെ പറഞ്ഞുകാണുന്നില്ലെന്നാണ് വ്യസനസമേതം എനിക്കിവിടെ പറയേണ്ടതായിട്ടുള്ളത്. അധികൃതർക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗം ലഭിക്കുന്ന വാഷയത്തിലുള്ള വിഷമം മുൻപിലത്തെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് കറേക്ട്രി അധികമായിരിക്കുന്നതേയുള്ളൂ. ഇതിനുമുൻപ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റ് മേലുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ മുഖാന്തിരം ചില ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളെല്ലാം കട്ടമായരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ പബ്ലിക് സർവീസു കമ്മീഷണർ വേണം നിയമനം നടത്താൻ. അദ്ദേഹത്തന്നെ അധികൃതനും അധികൃതനും ആരാണെന്നു തിരിച്ചറിയാൻ പാടില്ലാതായിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും തന്നെ അധികൃതർക്ക് ഉദ്യോഗം ലഭിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം വേണ്ട നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണർക്ക് കൊടുക്കണം.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): അധികൃതനും അധികൃതനും ആരാണെന്നു അദ്ദേഹത്തിനറിഞ്ഞുകൂടേ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): എന്നാണു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തികൊണ്ടു് മനസ്സിലാകുന്നതു്. പുരത്തനകാലംമുതലേ വിദ്യാഭ്യാ

സത്തിനു സൗകര്യമുണ്ടായിരുന്ന സമുദായത്തിലെ ഉദ്യോഗാത്മികരുടെ ഈയിടെ മാത്രം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസൗകര്യം ലഭിച്ച അധികൃത ഉദ്യോഗാത്മികയും മത്സരപ്പരീക്ഷക്കു വിധേയനാകണമെന്നു വെച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയായ ഒരു തത്വമല്ല. മാർക്ട് സൗജന്യമൊക്കെ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു വെച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അതു എങ്ങിനെ കലാശിക്കുമെന്നു ചോദിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. എങ്കിലും ഇതുവരെയുള്ള പ്രവർത്തനംകൊണ്ട് അതും അനുകൂലമായിരിക്കുമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുവാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലാത്തതിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടുതന്നെ വേണ്ട നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കണം.

പബ്ലിക് സർവീസ് കമ്മീഷണരുടെ പന്ത്രണ്ടുവർഷം താഴെ ക്ലാസിലുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനു അര രൂപയും ഇൻറർമീഡിയറു ഡിവിഷനിലുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനു അഞ്ചു രൂപയും ഒട്ടേക്കുണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നു. നാലു കാശിനു കടലാസുവാങ്ങിച്ച ഒരു ഫർജി എഴുതിക്കൊടുക്കാൻതന്നെ സ്ഥിതിയില്ലാത്തവരാണ് അധികൃതർ. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലയ്ക്കു അര രൂപാ ഒട്ടക്കിയാൽ അര രൂപാ നഷ്ടവുമായി, ഉദ്യോഗവുമില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള രൂളിൽനിന്നും അധികൃതരെ ഒഴിവാക്കണം.

സഹകരണഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കു ചിലതു പറയാനാണ്ട്. ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനംകൊണ്ടു വല്ലാത്തവരും കിട്ടുവാനുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് അധികൃതർക്കാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഈ വകുപ്പിനകത്തു അധികൃതരുടെ പ്രവേശനം ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശനത്തേക്കാളും ദുസ്സാദ്ധ്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു. അധികൃതസംഘങ്ങളിലേക്കായി അധികൃതസമുദായത്തിൽനിന്നുംതന്നെ അഞ്ച് ശുദ്ധ സിക്രട്ടറിമാരുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ അചർ അവിടെനിന്നും നിഷ്കാസനം ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ സെക്രട്ടറിമാരെ സഹകരണവകുപ്പിലെ പ്യൂബ്ലിസിറ്റിപ്പോലും നിയമിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള മനഃസംസ്കാരം ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനില്ല. ദേവയാർ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ അധികൃതസംഘങ്ങളെ നന്നാക്കണമെന്നു നിർദ്ദേശം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇന്നു മുന്നൂറിൽപ്പരം അധികൃതസംഘങ്ങൾതന്നെയുണ്ട്. അവയുടെ പരിശോധനയ്ക്കായി അധികൃതരിൽനിന്നുംതന്നെ ഒരു ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറെ നിയമിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് അചരെ മുന്നോട്ടു കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നുള്ള വിചാരം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനുല്ലെന്നു തെളിയിക്കുന്നു. കോവാപ്പറേറീവു് ഇൻഷുറൻസിനു ഉപദേശം നൽകാൻ ഒരു ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറെ കടംകൊടുത്തു ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു് അധികൃതരുടെ സംഗതിയിൽ എന്തു്കൊണ്ടാണ് അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാത്തതു് എന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടേ.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): അധികൃതസംഘങ്ങളെ പരിശോധിക്കാൻ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ ഇല്ലെ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): ഇന്നിരിക്കുന്ന ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാർ സഹകരണബുദ്ധിയാ ഈ വക സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള മനഃസംസ്കാരം ഉള്ളവരായി കാണപ്പെടുന്നില്ല.

ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാർക്കു ഓരോ പ്യൂബ്ലിക് അനുവദിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഒരു അധികൃതനെ ആദ്യമായി നിയമിക്കാൻ സംസ്കരണമുള്ള ഒരു ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർപോലും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽ ഇല്ല.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: അവയെ പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതിന് അധികൃതസമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ട ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാർ വേണമെന്നാണോ പറയുന്നത്?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): അങ്ങിനെ നൽകുന്ന പക്ഷം അത് വളരെ നന്നായിരിക്കും. അധികൃതരിൽ പരാക്ഷായോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരുണ്ട്. അവരെതന്നെ നിയമിക്കണം എന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നത്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): 'അധികൃതസംഘങ്ങൾ' എന്നുവെച്ചാൽ താണതരത്തിലുള്ള സംഘങ്ങൾ എന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലും ധനസ്ഥിതിയിലും പിന്നോക്കം നിൽക്കുന്ന സമുദായക്കാർക്ക് നടത്തപ്പെടുന്ന സംഘങ്ങൾ എന്നാണത്.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: മി. ജോസഫ്, അധികൃതസംഘങ്ങൾ എന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ എല്ലാവർക്കും മനസ്സിലാവുകയില്ലേ?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): മനസ്സിലാകും.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think, so far as the discussion goes, this House understands what 'depressed class' means. And this is not the first time that the member uses this expression. He has been mentioning this many times.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): ഇവിടത്തെ സഹകരണ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു ഒരു പരിശുദ്ധ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റാക്കിത്തീർത്തു. കാരണം അധികൃതരെ അതിൽ പ്രവേശിപ്പിക്കുകയില്ല എന്നുള്ളതുതന്നെ. ഇവിടത്തെ സഹകരണപ്രസ്ഥാനം അധികൃതരെ ചരിക്കയാണുചെയ്തത്. അധികൃതരുടെ സംഘങ്ങളെ അഭിമുഖീകരിച്ചുനിൽക്കുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേകം അവർതിന്നുതന്നെ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാരേയും മറ്റും നിയമിച്ചും അവരുടെ സംഘങ്ങളെ വേർതിരിച്ചു നടത്തിച്ചും ചെയ്തുകിടലല്ലാതെ സാധിക്കുകയില്ല. അധികൃതരിൽ നിന്നുതന്നെ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാരെ നിയമിക്കാൻ പ. സ. ജേന്റർ അവർകൾ സ്റ്റേറ്റ് മെന്റു ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽ

മർപ്പിച്ചു എന്നാണ് അദ്ദേഹം എന്നോട് പറഞ്ഞത്. ഗവണ്മെന്റിനും അദ്ദേഹത്തിനും തന്നെ അറിയാം ഇതിന്റെ പരമാത്മാം ഗവണ്മെന്റു ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധപതിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The second bell has gone. Mr. Madhavan Pillai, you can have just a few minutes. We have got only half an hour more.

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (Karunagapally): സർ, ധനകാര്യമന്ത്രി ഈ സഭയിൽ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ബഡ്ജറ്റ് പട്ടണവാസികളുടെ സൗകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി നിർമ്മിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ്റാണ്. എന്നെപ്പോലെയുള്ള ഗ്രാമവാസികളുടെ കാര്യം അശേഷം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാതെയാണ് ഇപ്രകാരം ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ്റ് രചിച്ചതെന്നു പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. കരം പിരിവു സംബന്ധമായ സാഹചര്യങ്ങളിൽ യാതൊരുവിധമായ കാരണമോ ഭാഷിണ്യമോ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനുണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയില്ലെന്ന് അടുത്തകാലത്തുതന്നെ ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ കമ്മീഷണർ ഈ മന്ത്രിയുടെ വചനം പ്രസ്താവിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ആയുരോദം പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന ഗസറ്റുകളുടെ വചനം തന്നെ നോക്കിയാൽ കരക്കുടിശിഖമൂലം വിറുപോകുന്ന വസ്തുക്കളുടെ എണ്ണവും അതുമൂലം കഷ്ടത അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ആളുകളുടെ എണ്ണവും ഏറക്കുറവു ഉൾക്കൊള്ളാൻ കഴിയുന്നതാണ്. ഇങ്ങനെ കരം പിരിക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ നിഷ്കരുണമായ നടപടികൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുക, ആ ഇനത്തിൽ കിട്ടുന്ന വരവിന്റെ ഒരുശതമാനം കൃഷിവകുപ്പിനായ ആളുകളുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കായി ചെലവു ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്ന നയത്തെ എങ്ങനെ ഫിസാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി ന്യായീകരിക്കും എന്നു ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നില്ല. ഈ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് രൂപീകരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത് സാമാന്യജനങ്ങളുടെ നന്മയേയും ആവശ്യത്തേയും ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചല്ലെന്നും പട്ടണവാസികളെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണെന്നും മി. വേലപ്പൻ നായർ പറഞ്ഞതിനോട് ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു. എനിക്ക് മുൻപ് പ്രസംഗിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മെമ്പർമാർ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതിൽ കൂടുതലായി യാതൊരു വിമർശനങ്ങളും ഞാൻ ചെയ്യുന്നില്ല.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ തൊഴിലില്ലാത്തവരുടെ സംഖ്യ വർദ്ധിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ പരിഹാരത്തിനു ഗവണ്മെന്റ് യാതൊന്നും ചെയ്തുകാണുന്നില്ല. ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഗൗരവമായി ചിന്തിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ ഒരിക്കൽ പ്രജാസഭയിൽ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. അന്നത്തെ ടിവാൻജിയായിരുന്ന മി. രാഘവയ്യ, റയിൽവേ കമ്പനിക്കാരുമായി എ

[Mr. M. K. Madhavan Pillai]

ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു കാര്യത്തിൽ കാര്യം കൈമാറ്റം ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് താല്പര്യം എന്ന്, അതിന് മുമ്പെങ്കിലും പാലയംകൾ അതനുസരിച്ച് താൻ വേണ്ടതെല്ലാം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന് എന്ന അഭ്യർത്ഥന പിന്നീട് അറിയിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. അതിൽ പിന്നീട് ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഒരു യാതൊരു നടപടികളും നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല. ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ ഏതൊരു വേഗത്തിൽ പതിയെ ഒരു വിഷയമാണിത്.

MR. K. MAHOMED (Always): Sir, by the separation of the Finance from the Accounts and by the appointment of a new Financial Secretary as a full time officer with separate additional staff, we thought that the Financial Secretary would be able to chalk out a new financial policy for the future. But from the budget presented before us, I find that there is nothing new and the old policy has again been repeated. The only exception is that a $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. loan has been raised recently and that, in my opinion, is not a sound economic policy. This loan ought to have been raised from our State itself. If it was done so, Government could have saved a large sum which they have had to spend by way of commission and discount to foreign agencies, and the interest which they have to pay for the loan to foreigners could have gone to the people of our own State. If the Government had started the system of permanent deposits in our Savings Bank Accounts and if the State Life Insurance had been properly organised, and the agents appointed inside and outside the State on commission basis, a large amount of money would have been forthcoming.

Sir, the prosperity of a country mainly depends upon its commercial and industrial development. But it would appear, from the speech of the Financial Secretary, that Government have not made any provision for the encouragement to be given to cottage industries in the State. The Financial Secretary expects more than a lakh of rupees as profit from the Rubber Factory next year. That is a matter to be seen. Last year also the then Financial Secretary expected a profit from the Rubber Factory but that expectation, we find, was not realised. The same thing is likely to happen in future also.

For the development of trade and industry in the country, sufficient and proper means of communication, such as bridges, roads and canals, are essential, especially in the interior parts of the State. But in the budget estimate for 1936-37, there is no provision either for the opening of new roads or bridges or canals in the interior parts of the State, especially in the northern parts of Travancore.

Sir, every year about 20 per cent. of the revenue is being spent for education. But the backward communities, in the matter of education, still remain backward for want of proper and sufficient encouragement on the part of Government. Government in 1919 had issued an order in which special emphasis was laid on the encouragement to be given to Muslims, especially the encouragement to be given to

Muslim girls' education. And it was also stated, that wherever necessary a sufficient number of girls' schools would be opened. Similarly in the recommendations contained in the report of the Education Reforms Committee of 1923, special stress has been laid for the encouragement to be given for Muslims in the matter of education, especially by the introduction of the teaching of Arabic in Colleges, High Schools, Middle Schools and Primary Schools. For the last two years, the Mahomedan Inspector of Schools recommended the introduction of Arabic in 24 Schools, but in this year's budget there is provision for the appointment of only 6 Arabic Instructors in 6 V. P. Schools. I hope and believe that the Government would pay more attention than they are now paying in the matter of encouraging Muslim education, especially education of Muslim girls in the State. The Muslims are lagging far behind the other communities in the matter of education owing to their conservative mentality and the general poverty of their parents.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, I rise to make a few remarks by way of reply to the observations made by the Honourable members of the House. (*Louder, please*) Sir, I find that the Financial Secretary, here is the villain of the piece. I have to thank the President now for making my position clear in one of his speeches. He said that the Financial Secretary

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I do not think you can thank the President. If any particular member said so, you may say so.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I thank the Deputy President.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You mean in his capacity as a member?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What is it that the President was thanked for?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Because, you see, he explained the correct position of the Financial Secretary. After all the budget is the budget of the Government of Travancore and not the Financial Secretary's budget. So whatever he says here is in his official capacity. After all, the whole Government is responsible, not merely the Financial Secretary.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): We know that.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): But still you all blame the Financial Secretary.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is not the Financial Secretary here on behalf of the Government?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: At this stage I may proclaim that there is no necessity to elucidate that point. All the members of the House know that the Financial Secretary is here certainly on behalf of the Government. He is at liberty to answer criticisms made by the members. No question need be put to the member with regard to the elucidation of constitutional points.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, I pass on to the other point. Because I wanted to make it clear first that it is the Government's budget and not the Financial Secretary's budget, I said so.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is all clear.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Most of the Honourable members said that the revenue was overestimated. As regards that point, the only item which shows some change and which requires some notice is certainly the land revenue. Sir, I have been advised by, and my estimate is based on the advice of the Land Revenue Commissioner. One of the Honourable members said that, because I do not know the country, I over-estimated the land revenue. That is why I, in my preamble, explained that it is not the Financial Secretary's estimate. It is based upon the advice of the Land Revenue Commissioner. Now, as a matter of fact, I find that Rs. 8 lakhs are outstanding under land revenue. I think this shows that the Travancore Government are most sympathetic towards agriculturists here, because in British India we never hear of Rs. 8 lakhs of arrears outstanding for any length of time. That only shows the sympathy of the Travancore Government towards their agricultural population.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are there remission rules in British India for the whole Presidency?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes, there are both standing orders and remission rules. The highest remission granted in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts is 12 per cent.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Does the Financial Secretary know that there is remission of tax only for a few taluks in Travancore?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I am not aware of that. But still, I find last year you had remission in Travancore to the extent of 18 per cent. I assume that some of the old arrears will be recovered, and even if they are not received we hope the budget estimate will come in.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): In the case of revenue under customs, was the estimate based on the suggestion of the Excise Commissioner or was it the Financial Secretary's own figure?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I wish such questions may not be put in such large numbers. The member was only saying that, although he had no direct personal knowledge of the conditions in Travancore, the budget was framed taking into consideration the information given to the Financial Secretary by the various heads of departments.

(A Voice—We want to know that)

I wish to know who the member is that wants the information. (Nobody stood up). I am glad that nobody wants. So no further question need be put.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): With regard to the receipt from tolls, do the Government now realise that it has been over-estimated?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): No, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was it not announced here that the toll-gates have been sold for over a lakh less than what they fetched last year?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Government have not confirmed the sales, Sir.

Mr. Karayalar said, Sir, that, since the Malabar Match Factory had been abolished, we should have estimated for a proportionate reduction in our receipts under Match Duty.

Sir, we get our share out of the total duty realised under this head by the Government of India according to our population, and not according to the duty we are able to realise here. The abolition of one factory here is not likely to affect the total quantity of matches consumed in India; and, as long as that remains the same, our share of the duty will continue as it is.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Does the Financial Secretary admit that if, instead of the classification he has adopted this year, the old method of classification had been adopted, the Budget would have been only a deficit Budget and not a surplus Budget as it has been shown to be now?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is a hypothetical question.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I am coming to that, Sir.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You should not answer it; I do not permit you to answer it. I have ruled it out.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Thank you, Sir.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Can the member deny that the amount of match duty he expects to collect in Travancore, as shown in the Budget that he has presented, does not make any allowance for the necessary fall due to the abolition of the Malabar Match Factory?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): It does not affect our estimate Sir. I am referring to the item called "contribution from the Government of India."

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum Rural*): Does it make any difference, according to the member, whether match factories exist here or not?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMY AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I do not say that they would not make any difference whatsoever. My point is that, as long as the total receipts under this head for the Government of India, remain the same, our income also, under this head, will be the same. The closing of a factory is not going to affect the consumption of matches in the whole of India.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Will not the closing of a match factory here—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The Financial Secretary has already stated that our receipts under this head are based on our population and not on the quantity of matches produced here. The matter ends there.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : As I have explained, matches are a necessity for every body. The total consumption will therefore be more or less constant. The closing down of a factory here is not going to affect the quantity consumed.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : On what basis did the Financial Secretary arrive at the figure that he has given in his Budget Estimate, under this head?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : It is based on the amount received by us from the Government of India, last year. As I said, next year there is not going to be any fall in the quantity of matches consumed in India.

I shall now deal with the classification I have adopted, about which so many members have spoken. My method of classification is in perfect accordance with the method followed by the Government of India, the Government of Madras and elsewhere. Sir, I shall explain how this method is most beneficial to the country. Sir, every Budget has two parts, the revenue side of it and the capital side of it. There are also the totals. I have now shown the major items of expenditure in the capital side. If I had shown them under the revenue side, the practical effect of it would be that, ultimately, the only course open to Government would be to resort to additional taxation because, we want money for these large schemes, and we want more money for the increased activities of the various Departments as desired by the people. Or, we must retrench our expenditure. That is certainly not possible since the people are clamouring for more and more for the Development and other Departments.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : It is not possible to reduce the standing charges on the revenue?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : I do not think it is quite so easy to do it. Take, for instance, the Education Department. Is it possible that we close all our colleges?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Is it not possible to reduce the number of Professors and Lecturers and Inspecting officers?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : Even if you do the worst, you may not get more than a few lakhs.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Something.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : If we examine the Balance Sheets of companies, we would find, Sir, that the shareholders can get more dividend if more items o

expenditure are debited to capital. This kind of classification is more beneficial, to the shareholders. Similarly, in the case of Government also, as long as you show a balanced Budget, you need not think of additional taxation. This is the classification that is adopted in British India also. The Delhi works, for instance, cost about Rs. 9 crores; they did not debit their cost to revenue, although it was a non-productive asset.

Sir, this is the method of classification followed almost everywhere and it is perfectly sound. After all, Sir, it is only a technical question of accounting.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Why has the Council Chamber been included under "Capital Works?"

RAO BAHADUR A. ENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Why did the Government of India include the Delhi works under "Capital Works?"

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): That is exactly what I want to know from the member (*Laughter*).

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The practice obtaining in British India was taken as the guide the Financial Secretary has said that.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): We want to be convinced that British India was rightly copied in this instance.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You cannot cross-examine the member like that.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Unless it has a value in the market, how can you call it an asset?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I admit, Sir, it is a non-productive asset.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I ask how the Financial Secretary proposes to find another 100 lakhs of rupees for capital works, for the year 1113?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I am coming to that; I am now dealing with the method of classification I have adopted.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You can have four minutes more.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Then, Sir, in regard to financing, there are only two courses open to us, either to provide out of current revenues, or to borrow. If we borrow and spend for non-productive works, we have to provide, out of the current revenue, for interest on the loan and for a sinking fund to repay the loan on the due date.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Is it not possible to retrench expenditure?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Wherever possible, it is our duty to do it.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Does the member hope that it would be possible for him to provide for interest on the loan and for sinking fund, out of the current revenues?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): We will try to do it.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangal*): Why not go in for a fresh loan again? (*Laughter*).

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): If our financial position can bear it, we can do it. As I have indicated, up to Rs. 112.5 lakhs, there would be no harm in our borrowing. I have stated the present financial position of the State in very clear and unambiguous language. Therefore, the charge, levelled against me by a member, that I have not presented the position clearly, is not correct, nor fair to me. I claim I have put it more clearly than ever before.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): How does the Financial Secretary propose to set apart Rs 5 lakhs every year for the Reserve Fund?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): That is what we are going to try. I want the Honourable members to bear this in mind when they ask for additional allotments. They have been asking for more money for agriculture and for other purposes; such expenditure should, in future, be met out of the accumulation of the Rs. 5 lakhs to be set apart each year for a Reserve Fund.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Is it the member's idea that this Rs. 5 lakhs should be the first charge on our revenues?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): This is what we are going to aim at; that aim may or may not be realised (*Laughter*).

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): If the aim is not realised, who is to suffer?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, our success in our attempts, lies entirely in the hands of the Honourable members of this House. It is up to them to help the Government in realising that aim.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Are the Government prepared to leave the whole thing to us? (*Laughter*).

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That kind of arrangement, even if agreed to by the Financial Secretary, cannot be taken notice of.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I wish to reply to the criticisms levelled against my proposal to allocate a prescribed percentage, out of the total revenues, for the working of each Department. Sir, some of the members, who have criticised the proposal, have, I believe, taken the cue from the leaderette on the subject, that appeared in the *Hindu*. Sir, my proposal is different from what is in force in Hyderabad. There, any saving, that a particular department is able to make out of the total amount that is given to it, is retained by the Department itself and accumulated as a sort of

reserve fund. That system obtains in the Government of India also in the case of the Army Department. Out of the 45 crores allotted for the Army Department, if the Department is able to effect any savings, it is allowed to accumulate it and keep it for itself. Here also, we follow that method in the case of the Irrigation Fund. We allot Rs. 2 lakhs every year; if they are able to save anything out of these Rs. 2 lakhs, they can accumulate it and keep it for themselves.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is it not the same system that is followed in Mysore for their P. W. D. Fund?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASWAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I am not aware of it.

Sir, I am not contemplating any such arrangement. It will not work well in a small State like Travancore. Here, the savings, if any, must come back to the common pool. All that I want is that there should be some kind of check on the arbitrary demands made by the various Heads of Departments, without any reference to the total amount available for expenditure. It is only as a sort of retrenchment measure that I have proposed it. I am very keen in our setting apart, every year, a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs for a reserve fund.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The House will now rise and meet again at 11 o'clock tomorrow.

The House adjourned at 5.1 P. M.

K. MADHAVA KURUP,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.